63 1946 General

THE SPORTS BEAT

Sat. 1-4-47

By WENDELL SMITH

The Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

'46 Greatest Year for Negro Athletes

You can turn back the pages of sports history and review the glorious feats of Negro athletes with a feeling of pride. That they have been great is a mere statement of fact, and no one can deny that they have more than held their own in practically every important field. But when the historians jot down their achievements for 1946 they are going to have a big job on their hands. Never before in history have Negro athletes made such great gains as they did in 1946. This was particularly true in the professional field, where they made marks in baseball, football and basketball.

At the top of the list, of course, is Jackie Robinson, who is "Athlete of the Year" and the 1946 International League batting champion. Robinson is now due for a trial with the Brooklyn Dodgers. He has proven his worth in the minors and is definitely ready for the big leagues. If he makes the Dodgers—and we are confident that he will—it will climax a long and unceasing fight for Negroes in the majors. Sat. 1-4-47

The Pittsburgh Courier is particularly proud of Robinson's brilliant achievements, because it was this paper that recommended him to Branch Rickey, owner of the Dodgers. In April of 1945, this writer had a conference with Rickey in his Brooklyn offices, and urged him to sign Robinson as "Exhibit No. 1" in his move to integrate Negroes into organized baseball. Throughout the summer we corresponded with him regularly, and that fall he signed Robinson to a Montreal contract.

Robinson has not only made good, but he did even more than those of us in The Pittsburgh Courier sports department expected him to do.

* * *

Outstanding In Many Fields

Battling with Robinson for recognition in organized baseball were four other Negro players, all members of the Brooklyn Dodgers farm family. They were Roy Campanella and Don Newcomb, who played with Nashua in the New England League, and Roy Partlow and John Wright, pitchers with Three Rivers of the Border League. All four, like Robinson, were outstanding, and at least two of them are due to be promoted to a team of higher classification.

In the amateur field, Negro athletes were as scintillating as ever. College football was loaded with outstanding players, and Levi Jackson of Yale proved to be the top sepia star in white colleges. Nathaniel Taylor, sharp-shooting quarterback of Tennessee State, has been named the No. 1 player in Negro college ranks.

* * *

Writers Deserve Credit

In professional football, Negroes came into their own with Cleveland signing Marion Motley and Bill Willis, and Los Angeles signing Kenny Washington and Woody Strode. The performances of Washington and Strode were limited and lacked the lustre of those turned in by Motley and Willis, both of whom were a major factor in Cleveland's winning the All-America Conference championship. Paul Brown, coach of the Cleveland team, automatically becomes one of the "Men of the Year" in sports, because he voluntarily signed Motley and Willis. The signing of Washington and Strode was done under pressure, however. That means, of course, that the Los Angeles officials are not to be congratulated with the same enthusiasm as Brown, the ex-Ohio State mentor and now the outstanding coach in professional football. At the same time, however, such Negro newspapermen on the West Coast, as Halley Harding and Herman Hill, deserve more than a mere pat on the back for the persistent fight they put up in behalf of Washington and Strode. It was through their untiring efforts that Los Angeles finally dropped the color-line and accepted the two Negro players.

Dolly King and Pop Gates, both former members of the famous New York Renaissance, crashed the professional basketball world. King was signed by the Rochester Royals and Gates by Buffalo of the National League.

Definitely, 1946 was the banner year of all years for Negro athletes, greater even than in 1936 when Jesse Owens led a caravan of "Black Ambassadors" to Berlin and handed Hitler his first major setback. It was also greater than 1937, when Joe Louis won the heavyweight championship, and a host of other Negro fighters were supreme in their respective classes. Sat. 1-4-47

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Brilliant Honor Roll for 1946

In a year when such great and significant strides have been made, it is only natural that the men and institutions who are mainly responsible for the gains deserve to be cited for their contributions. Here is our "Sports Honor Roll" for the past year:

BRANCH RICKEY—Broke down baseball's unwritten barrier against Negro players by signing Jackie Robinson and four others to Brooklyn farm clubs.

PAUL BROWN, Coach of Cleveland Browns—Voluntarily signed two Negro players to play with his team in the All-America Conference.

CHICK DAVIES, Coach of Duquesne University Basketball Team—Refused to bench his Negro star, Charley Cooper, in game against Tennessee. Game was cancelled.

NEVADA AND PENN STATE—Refused to play games against Miami University without Negro football players on their respective teams.

HOWIE ODELL, Yale Football Coach—Gave Levi Jackson a chance to play on Yale football team, and became first Negro to do so.

RAY ELLIOT, Illinois Football Coach—Carried more Negro players on his football squad than any other major college coach in the Nation.

CLAY HOPPER, Manager of Montreal—Despite the fact that he hails from Mississippi, did everything he could to inspire Jackie Robinson to greater heights.

MIKE JACOBS, Boxing Promoter—Continued his policy of giving worthy fighters a chance, regardless of race or color.

In this corner

Daily Worker, New York, 1-24-46

Negro Baseball Official Refutes Chandler

Bill Mardo

High Llama Happy Chandler got himself neatly slapped down yesterday by Dr. J. B. Martin, president of the Negro American Baseball League.

It seems that Kentucky's gift to organized baseball conferred over the weekend with Dr. Martin and also the prexy of the Negro National League. After the meeting ended Sunday, dear Happy issued a statement saying that "the Negro leagues favor keeping their own boys, and with their leagues on a sound basis with a contract like the one we use, they expect those boys to want to say in their own class." 1-24-46

Only no such opinion was ever made by the Negro officials during their conference with Chandler. As Dr. Martin declared yesterday in refuting Chandler, "There was no mention of Negro leagues wanting to hold their players if they had a chance to advance. Our chief objective at the commissioner's office," Martin said, "was to discuss plans to place the Negro leagues in organized baseball in order that our players would have a greater opportunity for advancement."

HAPPY CHANDLER

Quite a different version than Chandler's, eh? And there's no minimizing the importance of Dr. Martin's statement—because it's essential at this stage of the game that nothing hinder the onward gains of the fight for Negroes in major league baseball. Particularly any regrettable opposition from Negro owners themselves. That's why Dr. Martin's forthright answer to Chandler should be applauded.

It's apparent that Negro league officials want to quickly get on with organizing their loops on a sound, profitable basis. And so do they also seem desirous of becoming an accredited part of organized baseball, much in the fashion of the minors. 1-24-46

And it is important that Negro baseball be placed on a sound footing, with duly respected contracts and all the other essentials that are so vital a part of sound baseball organization. As Negro baseball operates now, there are no contracts signed by the players and owners—it's a slipshod arrangement wherein a ball player gets paid on a weekly or monthly basis. Negro owners are naturally concerned now that if Jimcrow in the majors is completely blasted to bits soon by Jackie Robinson, then they'll be victims of a mass raid by big-league owners.

It's important to remember that the ending of Jimcrow in the majors wouldn't destroy the Negro leagues, particularly if they were well-organized. On the contrary, many more Negro kids would be inspired to play ball now that they knew there was an opportunity to break into the majors. And the Negro owners themselves would have contracts which the big-league club owners would have to respect and buy if they wanted to purchase some Negro player.

So this move for well-operated Negro leagues is a good one. Just as Dr. Martin's refutation of the Chandler story was a good thing to see.

What Chandler hoped to gain by putting phony remarks into the mouths of the Negro league officials, is hard to understand. The only conclusion we can draw from this incident is that Happy doesn't intend to play a decent role when this whole issue breaks into the limelight again during Jackie Robinson's tryout with the Dodgers' Montreal farm-team.

Certainly Chandler's statement indicates that he would like to see the Negro league officials fight against the ending of the Jimcrow ban in the majors. That the president of the Negro American Baseball League quickly disillusioned him on that score is a very favorable sign for the entire campaign to finally eliminate the Law of the South from America's great pastime.

* 1-24-46

Big Jess Willard arrived in New York yesterday after a six-month USO tour of Europe——and the old-time heavy king had some interesting things to say in regard to that mythical Louis-Dempsey bout.

The man who was beaten into a pulp by Jack Dempsey away back in 1919, doesn't think the Manassa Mauler compares to Louis. Willard opined that "Joe Louis could beat the old Jack Dempsey about most any time because he has that good left hand, stands up straight and is a pretty fair boxer. Dempsey's a club-fighter."

Maybe Jess meant Dempsey gave him a pretty good clubbing when Jack copped the crown—because there certainly aren't many people who speak so disparagingly of Dempsey's abilities. But we do agree that Louis would have proven too much of a sharp-shooter for the wide-open Mauler.

Willard also likes Louis over Conn. No argument there, Jess.

Baseball Moguls on the Spot 2-16-46

The Negro National League owners will meet in New York next Wednesday for the express purpose of taking inventory and developing plans for the 1946 season. This may turn out to be the most crucial meeting in the history of organized Negro baseball. It was originally supposed to have been a joint session, but the Negro American League apparently is not interested. It will, however, be represented by J. B. Martin, president of the Western loop. Since the Negro National League last met, two outstanding players have been taken into organized baseball, Jackie Robinson and John Wright. There is reason to believe that other Negro stars will be accepted in the near future. The "snatching" of more players can become a real problem to Negro baseball. Any time you can get players like Robinson and Wright for absolutely nothing, you are not going to continue to pass up such a fertile market. Organized white baseball will—as soon as it finds out how Robinson and Wright are received—dig deep and long into the ranks of Negro baseball. Courier-Pittsburgh, Pa. 2-16-46

Therefore, it would be a wise thing if the Negro owners would devise some means and methods by which they would be in a position to receive financial consideration for their products. If they do as Commissioner Chandler advised: "Get their house in order," there is no doubt that they would be in a more favorable position to demand money for their stars. However, it is a safe bet that they will not get their house in order at the meeting next week. There are too many forces within the organization fighting to keep the house in disorder. That is an unfortunate situation, but one that is true.

Negro Baseball Head Challenges 'Class' Statement by Chandler

1-23-46 Richmond Times Dispatch, Va.

CHICAGO, Jan. 22—(AP)—The Negro American Baseball League today challenged an assertion attributed to Commissioner A. B. Chandler that Negro leagues favored keeping their players "in their own class" under a broadened system of organized baseball.

Dr. J. B. Martin, league president, declared in a prepared statement that in a recent conference with Chandler at his Cincinnati office "there was no mention of Negro leagues wanting to hold their players if they had a chance to advance."

In a press conference at Dallas, Texas, Sunday, Chandler was quoted: "The Negro leagues favor keeping their own boys and with their leagues on a sound basis, with a contract like the one we use, they expect those boys to want to stay in their own class."

Chandler said at Dallas there had been conferences between himself, Presidents Will Harridge and Ford Frick of the American and National Major Leagues and presidents of the American and National Negro Leagues.

"Our chief objective at the commissioner's office," Martin said, "was to foster plans to place the Negro leagues in organized baseball in order that our players would have a greater opportunity for advancement."

Martin said he was "heartily in accord" with Chandler's statement at Dallas that it was desirous to place all baseball under one authority and organize Negro leagues on "a strong basis."

Since reading Chandler's statement, Martin said he was "trying to determine what was meant by the phrase—' stay in their own class.' " Chandler's comments on Negro leagues followed a query concerning the signing of Jackie Robinson, a Negro, to a Montreal International League contract.

Recognition Of Negro Loops Is Discussed

The Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky. 1-21-46

Happy Would Like All Baseball Under Czar

Dallas, Tex., Jan. 20 (AP) — Baseball Commissioner Happy Chandler said today Negro baseball league officials had conferred with him, President Will Harridge of the American League and President Ford Frick of the National League concerning re-organization on a basis that would permit entry into organized baseball.

Chandler, here to address the Sports Achievement Banquet tomorrow night, met informally with club owners of the Texas League and later at a press conference was asked what the results would be from the signing of Jackie Robinson, a Negro, to a Montreal International League contract.

"There have been conferences between myself, Harridge and Frick with the presidents of the American and National Negro leagues," Chandler said. "These conferences, at the request of the Negro League presidents, were with a view toward organizing the Negro leagues on a strong basis. I was asked if I would also be commissioner for those leagues. I told them to get their house in order then come to baseball with a petition for recognition." 1-21-46

OBJECTIVE

He told the Texas club owners baseball had established its integrity under the late Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis and that his principal objective was continued protection of the

Organized Ball May Recognize Negro Leagues

The Birmingham News, Birmingham, Ala.

DALLAS, Texas, Jan. 21 — (AP)— Commissioner A. B. (Happy) Chandler says all baseball, including even the amateurs, should be under one head. He also reveals that Negro diamond leaders have discussed the question of reorganizing their leagues on a basis that would permit their entry into organized baseball. 1-21-46

Here to speak at a sports achievement banquet, the commissioner at a press conference, disclosed that the presidents of the two Negro leagues had conferred with him, President Ford Frick of the National League and President Will Harridge of the American League.

Chandler said these conferences were at the request of the Negro league presidents and his revelation came in reply to a question regarding the signing of Jackie Robinson, a Negro, to a Montreal International League, contract.

Chandler said he was asked if he also would be commissioner for the Negro leagues. "I told them to get their house in order, then come to baseball with a petition for recognition," Chandler declared. "The Negro leagues favor keeping their own boys and with these leagues on a sound basis, with a contract like the one we use, they expect those boys to want to stay in their own class. I see no reason why the Negro leagues can not become a part of organized baseball with the commissioner serving them as he does other leagues." 1-21-46

Chandler said it was the idea of himself, Frick and Harridge that the Negroes set up their own organization on as broad a plan as they desire, including major and minor leagues of various classification. "Once they do this, I believe

game's integrity. Chandler predicted "the greatest sports boom in the history of mankind" this year and declared baseball would lead the way. Regarding the administration of baseball law he said he would rule in the way he thought was just and that he had no intention of attempting to change the law.

Chandler declared he would like to see the time when all baseball would be under one head—with even amateur ball coming under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner's office.

the color problem in baseball will be solved," he said.

Speaking at a meeting of Texas League club owners, the commissioner gave a general outline of the workings of his office and projected his ideas for future control that he said he hoped would bring various departments — the minor leagues and promotional activities among the youngsters—under a single jurisdiction which he thought should be the commissioner's headquarters. 7-21-46

Chandler was guest of President J. Alvin Gardner of the Texas League, at a meeting last night. Tonight he speaks at the Y. M. C. A sports achievement banquet.

NEGRO LEAGUE DATES SET

New York Times N.Y.

National Loop Will Conduct an 80-Game Campaign

Tues 2-26-46

Play in the Negro National League will get under way on May 4 and will have an 80-game campaign, President Tom Wilson announced yesterday. The season will be split into 40-game halves. The 80-game season is an increase of 40 per cent over the 1945 drive.

Aside from Wilson, other 1946 officers installed at a league meeting were Alex Pompez, vice president; Cum Posey, secretary, and Abraham Manley, treasurer.

It was announced that the league has sanctioned a working agreement with the Negro Southern League and that it had voted to petition the major leagues for recognition in organized baseball.

Josh Gibson's Condition Has Island Upset

New York Amsterdam News

SAN JUAN P. R. — Baseball and sports circles hereabouts were thrown into an uproar last week when news circulated throughout the island that Josh Gibson, famous homerun king of the Homestead Grays had been apprehended by the police on a charge of drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

Even more sensational was the news that the slugging diamond star had undressed himself and went naked into the street while being held at a hotel for observation. Many ball players and fans recalled Josh's breakdown from a mental disorder last season in the states and ventured the opinion that the big fellow had "blown his top again." Sat 2-23-46

Gibson had recently been handed his release from the Santurce Crabbers team because of his poor performance during the winter season here. His general all around play had been far below his customary standard and his hitting for the most part had been woefully weak considering his known capabilities.

Josh had been in difficulty with the police here before because he has been indulging almost continuously for a long spell. Following his release from the Santurce club he had chartered reservations via the Pan American Airlines for passage back to the States but the trip had to be cancelled when he was apprehended by the police on the liquor charge.

After his release from police headquarters he was put under what amounted to "protective custody" at a hotel. Not too closely guarded since there was no criminal charge against him, Gibson is alleged to have removed all his clothing and gone into the street. He was arrested once again and it was expected he would be committed to a mental institution for observation. According to our informant, Gibson had already spent part of his stay in Puerto Rico in a mental institution.

The slugging catcher is still the property of the Homestead Grays of the Negro National League.

Negro Southern Loop Adds Louisville Team

Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 4 (AP)—The two-day meeting of the Negro Southern League neared its close today with four new baseball clubs in the circuit.

Accepted into the loop were teams from Charlotte, N. C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Louisville, Ky., and Montgomery, Ala.

R. B. Jackson of Nashville was re-elected president. 2-5-46

Other league members are Asheville, N. C.; Chattanooga, Knoxville and Nashville, Tenn.

Owens is in the market for a manager

Los Angeles Tribune 2-9-46

PORTLAND, Ore. — Ex-track champion Jesse Owens, who apparently is out to cut some part of the figure in the baseball world that he did on the cinderpath, recently visited here to start his franchise in the new West Coast Negro Baseball League to perking. He seemed to expect a sensational success for the enterprise, it was reported. 2-9-46

"With an experienced and great a fellow as the Abe Saperstein to guide the new circuit as its president," asserted Owens, "I don't see how we can miss. I have had numerous dealings with him and owe most of my success in my diamond activities to his generous and astute direction."

While here Owens went into a huddle with Bill Klepper, general manager of the Portland club of the Pacific Coast League, whose park the Owensmen will use when the Beavers are on the road. He announced that he had gotten a promise of full cooperation and a lot of practical suggestions from Klepper, who seemed pleased over the new Negro league setup.

Owens believes that the huge Negro population now settled all along the Coast will be a lode. "My next step," he said, "is to sign a manager, one with a solid background and plenty of experience." 2-9-46

Asked if he had anyone particular in mind, Owens said a lot were being considered, and two in particular: Paul J. Hardy, recently out of the Army, who has been one of the best catchers in the Negro American League (with the Detroit Stars, Baltimore Elite Giants, Chicago American Giants, Kansas City Monarchs, and Birmingham Black Barons, in that order.) And Johnny Hines, an outstanding catcher with the Chicago American Giants under Rube Foster, 1925-33.

J. B. Martin Puzzled by Chandler's 'Stay in Your Own Class' Phrase

Kansas City Missouri Call

CHICAGO. — Dr. J. B. Martin, president of the Negro American league, said here this week that after reading and re-reading Commissioner A. B. "Happy" Chandler's Dallas, Texas, statement anent: "Negro baseball players stay in their own class," it is still as clear as mud to him.

"Moreover," said President Martin, "at a conference with the Commissioner in his Cincinnati office a few days ago, there was no mention of the Negro leagues wanting to hold their players if they had a chance to advance. But our chief object in the commissioner's office was to foster plans to place the Negro leagues in organized baseball in order that our players would have a greater opportunity for advancement."

Of one thing, however, Dr. Martin said that he was certainly not in accord with Commissioner's Texas statement.

"The conference held with the commissioner was at the request of the Negro league presidents, with a view toward organizing the Negro league on a more sound basis." 2-1-46

At that conference, Commissioner Chandler seemed to be of the opinion that he too would like to see the time come when all baseball would be under one head. But in Texas the commissioner's press statement seemed to take on a gob of local color or a tainted southern flavor, altogether out of harmony with that of the conference of presidents.

"However," said President Martin, "the Negro league heads refute two statements made by Mr. Chandler: that the Negro leagues want to keep their own boys after their leagues were on a more sound footing, and that Negro players are to "stay in their own class."

Negro Ball League Revises Constitution

Richmond Times Dispatch Va.

NEW YORK, March 18—(AP)—The Negro National Baseball League has appointed a committee to revamp its constitution as the first step toward applying to Commissioner A. B. Chandler for a berth in organized baseball.

The action was taken at a special session of the league at Baltimore on March 12.

The constitution of the National League is being used by the Negro circuit as a model. Tue. 3.19.46

In this corner

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

Looking at Montreal and the Dodgers

Sat 3-9-46

By Bill Mardo

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., March 8.—Prior to the momentous Monday of this week, some 60 years had gone by without a Negro player in organized baseball. With this bit of history to set the stage, now try to visualize the scene that unfolded here yesterday beneath the cool skies over Kelley Field:

The Montreal Royals and a makeshift team of Dodger rookies are tangling in a practice set-to. As the Royals take the field to start off the first, a powerfully built young Negro jogs onto the diamond and sets himself between second and third base. Jackie Robinson crouches forward slightly, claps his bare hand into his mitt, shouts a few words of encouragement to tall John Travis on the mound—and so begins his shortstop career in minor league baseball.

It's a work day, of course, and thus the tiny grandstand is bare but for a handful of Negroes. You can well imagine the thoughts that are whizzing through their minds as they watch a fellow-Negro play baseball with 17 other men, mostly Southerners, in the Land of Jimcrow.

Perhaps it's better that I have no Frank Merriwell heroics on the part of Robinson to tell you about. And do you know why I say this? Only because it's so typical of the entire, normal atmosphere that prevailed throughout this first infield test for the first Negro in modern organized baseball. Aside from the fact that one man on the ballfield had a complexion shades darker than every other player present, there was absolutely nothing to remind the observer that "something different" was occurring.

When lead-off man Jackie Robinson stepped to the plate in the last half of the first, the Montreal players set up the same type of chatter that greets every batter going up there for his cut: **"C'mon, Jackie kid, you're the boss in there. . . . Make him give you a good one, Jackie boy.** . . . And so it went. For me, that was the most significant thing about today's game, which the Dodger rookies won, 4—2. That Robinson looked good in there during the four innings he worked, or that he handled his three chances with ease, or that he couldn't buy a hit in his two times at bat—all this doesn't mean half as much, in this third day of practice for Jackie, as did the social atmosphere that prevailed in Kelley Field.

That was the tip-off. That was the answer to all the "crackers" who've screamed for years that putting Negroes and whites on the same ballfield would be like setting a match to kerosene.

It would be just as false, however, to imagine there will be no incidents at all during the early stages of Negro participation in organized baseball. As lanky Bob Daly, Montreal outfielder, said to me earlier in the week: **"Sure, there'll be some guys with chips on their shoulders, and some guys who'll gun for Robinson just because he's colored—but those things will take care of themselves as Negroes establish themselves more firmly in baseball and wear down those prejudices during the course of competition."**

As has been amply proved in nearly any other sport you can name.

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Peppery Frenchy Bordagaray coached the Montreal crew in today's game, and the former Dodger infielder has as much hustle on the third base foul line as he did during his active days. I had a pleasant little chat with Frenchy, who reminded me that he played against John Wright on two different occasions: at the Negro All Star-National League All Star twin bill in Ebbets Field; and again when the Dodgers faced Wright's Floyd Bennett Naval team. **"Wright has a lot of good stuff,"** Bordagaray remarked, **"a real fast ball, good hook, and a knuckler, too."**

Dodgers Sign 2 More Negroes To New England Farm Team

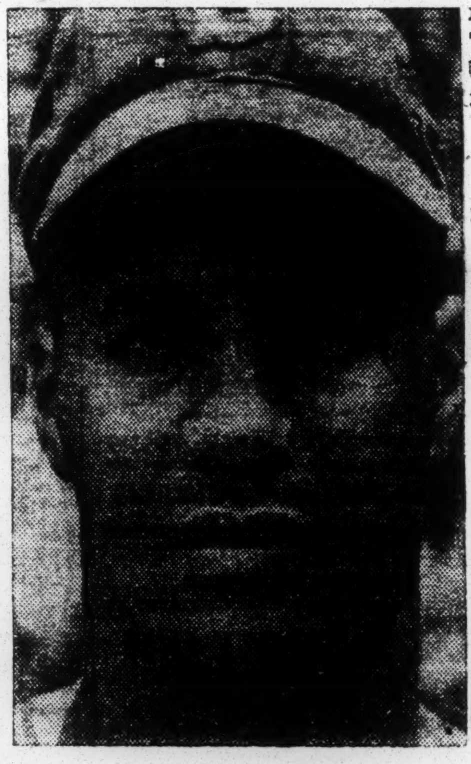
Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Sat 4-6-46

By BILL MARDO

Two more Negroes are in organized baseball.

Hard-hitting backstop Roy Campanella of the Baltimore Elite Giants, and the Newark Eagles' young right-handed hurler Donald Newcombe were yesterday signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers for its Nashua farm-team in the New England League.

Thus was another body-blow ripped into the heart of Jimcrow in America's National Pastime. Campanella and Newcombe are the third and fourth Negro players now assigned to the Dodger farm organization—Jackie Robinson and wiry John Wright having already paved the way in Branch Rickey's Montreal club.



ROY CAMPANELLA

In Roy Campanella, the Nashua team has acquired one of the brightest stars in the Negro leagues, and a standout player for many seasons despite his 25 years of age. The good-looking, strong-armed Campanella last year batted .365 for the Baltimore Elites, and his booming bat accounted for 133 runs.

In 1941, at the age of 20, Campanella's tremendous talent earned him "The Most Valuable Player" award of the Negro National League. That year Campanella poled out 33 home runs and racked up a potent .364 batting average. The slugging catcher has an exceptionally accurate and strong arm—and boasts a lot of savvy in handling hurlers.

Donald Newcombe, the other Negro signed to a Nashua contract, is somewhat of a newcomer and only played two seasons with the Newark Eagles. The 6-4 husky hurler notched a 14-4 record with the Elites last year, and won six exhibition games for Newark in '45, when he made his debut into Negro baseball.

A spokesman at the Brooklyn Dodger offices yesterday told the Daily Worker that both Campanella and Newcombe were scouted last summer, and that the talent-hunters had been highly impressed by what they saw.

Sat 4-6-46

In another conversation with Effa Manley, owner of the Newark Eagles, the writer was told that Newcombe is "a fine prospect, throws a very hard ball and only needs a little schooling."

Mrs. Manley, one of the first Negro club owners to take a clear stand on Negroes in big-league baseball, when the campaign was started by the Daily Worker eight years ago, told us yesterday: "One of the best spots in the world to break down prejudice is in baseball, and that's why I've always supported the fight to end Jimcrow in the majors. When Negroes make good in big-league baseball it will have the same effect upon Negro-white unity that has been created as a result of the fine records established by Negroes in all other sports. There's no reason why Negroes can't be included among the finest baseball players in the country—just as they have proven themselves in boxing, football and on the cinder paths."

The Newark Eagles' prexy told us that "a large percentage of the players now on my team are potential big-league stars."

The club owner expects to release a formal statement to the press next week concerning Negroes in organized baseball.

Meanwhile, Fred H. Dobens, president of the Dodgers' Nashua nine, said yesterday that the signing of Campanella and Newcombe is further proof that "Brooklyn is carrying on its plan to give deserving Negro players a chance to make good in organized basbell down through its farm clubs."

As Others See Us:

Griffith's Plot Against Mexico Baseball Loop

Daily Worker New York N.Y.
Sun 3-16-46

(Today we continue the exclusive expose of Clark Griffith's visit to Cuba. This series of articles was written by the sports columnist of the Cuban Communist paper, Hoy.)

By CELSO ENRIQUEZ

HAVANA.—Yesterday we pointed out that when Mr. Clark Griffith spoke at the Tropical Park affair in his honor here last Sunday, he was really giving vent to his spleen on Mexican baseball. We pointed out that this tied in with the interest of the American baseball trust, which finds a strong competitor in the new Mexican League. But let's get straight on where our own Cuban interests lie in his proposition that we line up with the Yankee system.

Mr. Griffith showed he doesn't have the foggiest notion about Cuban baseball. It seems he doesn't savvy that the stupid and inhuman discrimination that characterized so-called organized baseball in the United States simply doesn't exist in our country.

If he knew our baseball history, he would understand that in a country that has produced so many extraordinary ballplayers, Negro and white, it is unthinkable that we adopt a kind of organization based on the worst kind of racial discrimination. So any effort to copy the U. S. setup here in Cuba is doomed to failure.

What Mr. Griffith is after is to tie up Cuban baseball in order to take a hefty poke at the Mexican League. He knows that Mexico is the bread and butter of our players, and if he can tie up our organization hand-and-foot to the feudal American system it would put Mexican ball into a hole. It's a clever dodge against an outfit that's causing the lords and masters of U. S. ball a lot of headaches right now

CLARK GRIFFITH

Let me inform Mr. Griffith that he can't bust the friendship that links our sport to the Mexican game: first, because we like Mexico as a brother country and, second, because they don't discriminate against our players on account of the color of their skin.

Sun. 3-16-46

On the contrary, our black players in Mexico are considered human beings like anyone else. If that were the case in the United States, Mr. Griffith would be offering us a horse of a different color. Then we might think about his proposition. But the bare, cruel and barbarous reality of American Jimcrow repels us more and more from American baseball.

Mr. Griffith shows his ignorance again when he tells us baseball isn't the national sport in Cuba. Actually, there is more popular activity and interest in this game here than in the United States, proportionately, of course.

But when Mr. Griffith speaks of making Cuban baseball a "national sport," we mustn't forget that he means a "white" sport, since he went on to men-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 98

tion the efforts of Merito Acosta to get a franchise for his Havana club to compete in a Southern Jimcrow league in the United States.

But there can be no real Cuban baseball project that isn't firmly based on social equality. Anything else would disgrace our society and be a slap in the eye of our baseball traditions.

To sum up, then: There is a gap between U.S. and Cuban baseball that is very hard to bridge. It is caused by the brutal discrimination the U.S. commits against a considerable part of our population. That, in essence, is the reason for the exodus of our ball players to Mexican soil, to friendly, good neighborly soil. There they receive us as brothers and, incidentally, pay us a darn better pay in most cases than they've been paying in the United States.

And that, which is an inalienable right, Mr. Griffith, cannot be undone by this or that organization against the nation that treats us square. Sun. 3-16-41.

In this Corner

Clubowners Hope to Sabotage End-Jimcrow Issue

Daily Worker

— Bill Mardo —

Ran into an old friend coming away from the Garden track meet Saturday night . . . a fellow who is one of the keenest authorities on Negro baseball that we know of.

He asked me, quite bluntly: "Do you think Branch Rickey is sincerely interested in ending Jimcrow in the majors? Could there possibly be other motives behind his signings of Jackie Robinson and John Wright?"

2-5-46

Well, we talked the thing out for nearly an hour, and then went our respective ways. What brings that discussion into my mind now is a little item that PM's Tom O'Reilly had in his column yesterday.

O'Reilly said: "I will not believe baseball is anything but a Jimcrow proposition until I see a regular major league player who is black. Only yesterday a smug baseball sportsman said, 'Robinson and Wright couldn't make the Dodgers even if they were white. Not enough talent. We know that.' Then we'll bury the idea for another 10 years."

New York, New York

Quite a candid item, isn't it? And though O'Reilly doesn't name the "baseball sportsman" he quotes from, in all probability it was someone rather close to the big-leaguer inner sanctum.

The question can be asked: Does this person typify the sentiments of most major-league moguls? I would say yes. I think the tip-off as to where the magnates stand today on the Jimcrow issue can be gleaned from the fact that none of them, outside of Rickey, are breaking their necks racing to grab off Negro players while the market is still wide open. This is a very important sign—for it's long been the consensus of opinion that once a club broke the ice, as the Dodgers have, then there would be a mad scramble to sign up all the other Negro stars available.

That such a situation hasn't transpired is not a very optimistic sign. It proves more than anything else that the baseball bigwigs aren't ready to end the Jimcrow ban of their own accord. It proves conclusively that we are now entering the most critical phase of the long campaign to democratize our National Pastime. There must be no let-up on our part now, or any slackening of the mass pressure.

This is the moment to hit out hard against the moguls. Now, as Jackie Robinson and John Wright prepare to step onto the Daytona Beach playing field.

My only disagreement with Tom O'Reilly's column, is this: The major league owners are refraining from signing Negro players not because they honestly believe there is "not enough talent" in the Negro leagues. That's so much hog-wash. The reactionary clubowners know full well of the great abilities of Roy Campanella, Willie Wells, Booker McDaniels, and the host of other topnotch Negro stars. The magnates aren't signing them up because it's their considered opinion that the end-Jimcrow fight can be sabotaged by ignoring the issue . . . by banking on the pressure to let-up while Wright and Robinson play in the minors.

Whether or not Branch Rickey has a few tricks up his sleeve isn't the issue right now. The fact still remains that he has gone further to end the color ban than any other magnate. Rickey will be on the spot fast enough—when he's confronted with the question of filling gaps and weak spots on the Dodgers by recalling players from Montreal. If Wright becames the leading hurler on the Montreal team, and Rickey needs some mound support during the season, all eyes will be on him to see whether or not he brings Wright down from Montreal or somebody with a lesser record.

So the big job now is to bring mass pressure to bear against Larry MacPhail and Horace Stoneham in New York City. Of course, progressives and trade unionists in Detroit, Chicago and other big-league cities should do likewise there.

This fight is far from won. And Tom O'Reilly was quite right to say: "I will not believe baseball is anything but a Jimcrow proposition until I see a regular major league player who is black."

THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

They're Reaping What They've Sown . . . . .

The owners of teams in Negro baseball have suddenly become deeply concerned about the organizational structure of their leagues and are now soliciting the aid and support of baseball's high commissioner, A. B. (Happy) Chandler. It is significant to note, dear readers, that this concern is not motivated by a desire to improve the status of the Negro player, but simply to protect their own selfish interests. These owners—some of whom are white—have rolled along their merry way down through the years, ignoring the common laws of organized baseball and grasping what they could wherever they found it.

1-28-46

Despite the pleadings of the Negro Press and other forces interested in the general welfare of Negro baseball, they have arbitrarily gone overboard in exercising their right of "free enterprise." Generally, the Negro owners have exhibited little or no racial pride, and the white owners in business with them haven't forced the issue in matters designed to improve the status of the game, the player, or the unfavorable impression Negro baseball has created with the public as an institution. The white owners in Negro baseball have very wisely let the issue stand pat, less they become involved in issues with their Negro colleagues relative to racial progress and advancement.

Penn.

When Branch Rickey signed Jackie Robinson last fall to a Montreal contract, he blew the roof off of Negro baseball. Suddenly there was a great uproar from the officials of Negro baseball. They charged that Rickey was stealing their property and had refused to recognize that they existed as a league. They emphasized that they were in no way anxious to hinder the progress of the Negro player and his advancement in the direction of the major leagues. They said—and the public listened with suspicion—that they wanted to see the Negro player advance, but insisted that they should be compensated for producing him to such men as Branch Rickey. The officials of the Negro American and National Leagues demanded financial consideration on all "future and similar deals."

The truth of the matter is this: Few, if any, of the owners in Negro baseball are sincerely interested in the advancement of the Negro player, or what it means with respect to the Negro race as a whole. They'll deny that, of course, and shout to the high heavens that racial progress comes first and baseball next. But actually, the preservation of their shaky, littered, infested segregated baseball domicile comes first, last, and always.

* * *

All They Saw Was Gold . . . . .

Anyone under the impression that the signing of Jackie Robinson was received with joyous acclaim within the portals of Negro baseball is sadly mistaken. While approximately 13 million Negroes and possibly a like number of whites received the announcement with enthusiasm, there was a sullen reaction and a frantic scramble to "save everything before the avalanche" inside the house of Negro baseball. So they went whimpering to Chandler, pleading for recognition and no further repetition of the "Robinson case." All they saw was the glittering gold they've been reaping for the past four years; all they envisioned was the crumbling of their bawdy house; all they cared about was the perpetuation of the "slave trade" they had developed via the channels of segregated baseball.

Now, Chandler tells Negro baseball to "get your house in order," and infers that if it does so, Organized Baseball will interest itself in the possibility of admitting Negro baseball. What does that mean? It means that the presidents of the Negro leagues must be removed and men who are not officially affiliated with teams inserted. It means the end of syndicated baseball, the death of the far-flung "booking system." It means the end of make-shift schedules and all the other inconsistencies that have made it a farce. It means the formation of a real, business-like organization.

If those moves are made, you can bet that they will be made with a reluctance. The men who are now in the driver's seat in Negro baseball are in no way anxious to be harnessed or regimented by rules and regulations. They want to continue operating as they have in the past; giving practically nothing and taking almost everything. They still want to schedule games according to their whims and dictate according to their wishes. There are certain officials in Negro baseball who revel and gloat over their positions, and there are others who maintain their lordly posts because it enables them to foster a vicious yet profitable system of exploitation. All this will end if they get their "house in order."

And while they are frantically running around searching for a way to continue their pirate-like methods, their ball players are being left vulnerable to the flattering advances of outside interests.

There is no reason why the appeal to Chandler for recognition by Organized Baseball should not be viewed with suspicion. There is reason to believe, however, that owners of Negro teams hope to put the brakes on the surge of Negro players headed in the direction of the majors. It would not be too fantastic to assume that once they are a part of Organized Baseball they hope to join up with reactionary forces already there. Such an undesirable union could hamper the advancement of the Negro player into the majors considerably. Negro baseball would then be a part, yet not a part, of Organized Baseball. They could possibly operate on this theory: "You leave our players alone, and we'll leave yours alone."

* * *

Negro Club Buys Entire Roster To Get One Pitcher

News 6-4-46 Birmingham News

PITTSBURGH, June 3—(AP)—Hayward Jackson, publicity director of the United States Negro Baseball League, announced tonight the Brooklyn Brown Dodgers had purchased the entire St. Louis Giants Negro baseball team in order to get Herb (Doc) Bracken, a big righthanded pitching ace.

Bracken won 13 and lost 1 while pitching for the Great Lakes Naval Training Station team.

Jackson said George Armstrong, owner of the Brooklyn Brown Dodgers, originally planned to buy only Bracken but that Robert Palm, St. Louis manager, countered with "the whole club will have to go with him."

Ala.

Let's Renew The Campaign

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Sat. 5-4-46.

By BILL MARDO

The baseball season is two weeks old, four Negroes are on Dodger farm teams, and I wonder, is the vast progressive movement in this city to be content with just that?

Surely much has been won thus far in the fight for Negro rights in American baseball. But just as surely, should no one deem the battle won in a finished sense.

There aren't any Negroes yet playing in the major leagues. Only one big league organization, the Brooklyn Dodgers, has taken the elementary step toward ending the Jimcrow blemish in baseball.

But what of the other 15 clubs—what of the New York Yankees and Giants in this city? Are Larry MacPhail and Horace Stoneham to be allowed a continuance of their flagrant violation of the Ives-Quinn Bill, which labor forced onto the statute books in Albany so to make discrimination illegal in the industries of New York State?

LARY MacPHAIL

Dan Dodson, Executive-Director of the Mayor's Committee on Unity, sounded a battle cry several days ago in a speech he made before the Sara Delano Roosevelt Memorial House League. Mr. Dodson both asked and answered a question that all of us must take up with renewed vigor. After paying his compliments to the first steps taken by Rickey to end Jimcrow in baseball, Dawson continued:

"What has happened since that time Rickey has taken his club through spring training in Florida? The cordial reception received by these Negro players on the Montreal team and in Jersey City is a clear indication that integration can be successfully handled and that the heavens don't fall when a Negro goes to bat.

"What have the other clubs done? So far as I know, not a solitary thing. What have the major leagues done? When I interviewed Ford Frick last Summer on this problem, he indicated that the leagues, as well as the individual clubs, had a responsibility for seeing that adequate farm opportunities were developed for the preparation of Negro young people. But the only thing that has happened, so far as I know, is that a quotation was made by Commissioner Chandler in Dallas, Texas, to the effect that he had been approached by these Negro baseball leagues asking that they be incorporated into Organized Baseball. I was not certain from the press remarks which he made whether he thought this was the complete solution to the problem or not. To this point, however, there has been no initiative shown, to my knowledge, either by Mr. Chandler, by the Negro leagues, or by the individual clubs, the use of whose parks will determine whether or not Negroes in Negro leagues can schedule games with sufficient regularity that they can begin to approach Organized Baseball standards.

"All that has come this spring, except from the Dodgers' camp, has been rumbling and innuendos by press reporters to the effect that Rickey's integration program was going well, but that other club-owners seem to resent it. Rickey cannot solve the problem of the Negro in baseball alone. It is highly important that not only MacPhail and Stoneham, but that Commissioner Chandler and Mr. Frick of the National League and Mr. Harridge of the American League realize that Organized Baseball can never achieve its fullest development as an American sport and can never symbolize sportsmanship in a democracy until they have taken the initiative to work this thing out. There are only two border-line cities in which there may be problems in integrated baseball. These are Washington, D. C., where Clark Griffith seems to be the center of reaction, and St. Louis, Mo.

Not only the three New York City teams, but the major league teams in these other communities as well, have a responsibility for seeing that the same opportunities are given Negroes as are given other American youth. It is only fair to ask that the two clubs in Boston, the two clubs in Philadelphia, and the American League club in Detroit, in particular, where a vast population of Negroes live, should face their responsibilities the same as the clubs in New York City. It can hardly be said that Organized Baseball has no responsibility for giving a youth his chance, because Organized Baseball is a closed enterprise dominated by well-understood rules and no young person, irrespective of his ability, can win for himself the recognition which his abilities entitle him unless this gigantic organzation allows him and opportunity."

Mr. Dodson should be commended for his forthright remarks on this burning issue. And the head of the Mayor's Committee on Unity is particularly correct in placing full onus for the do-nothing policies of the majors just where it belongs—on the heads of both leagues, Frick and Harridge, and especially Stoneham and MacPhail here in New York. Also to the point is Dodson's categorization of Washington Senators' prexy, Clark Griffith, as the "center of reaction" in his city to the end-Jimcrow campaign.

This writer remembers full well the conversation he had with Griffith last May, when the Nats' boss declared: "I stand for a colored league and a white league. If we signed up Negro players it would destroy their own league. Let them stay as their own unit; they draw good crowds. Why, the colored people take pride in the fact that they have a league of only Negro players and no whites."

What else could have been expected from the man who only last week loudly proclaimed his opposition to a union for baseball players —and who was recently charged by the American Baseball Guild with having taken illegal steps to prevent the Washington players from joining the newly-formed Guild.

It seems to me the progressives in Washington have a full-scaled job to do on Griffith. But here in New York, the same task confronts labor in regard to Stoneham and MacPhail. These two magnates must become the target for a newer and ever stronger campaign to win contracts for Negro players with the Otters and Bronx Bombers.

Let's go, fans . . . NOW!

THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

Chicago, Ill.

Sat 3-23-46

EVER SINCE Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers signed John Roosevelt Robinson (Jackie to you) to play baseball with the Montreal Royals of the International League, a Brooklyn farm club, daily newspapers, the Associated Press, the United Press and even some of the Negro sports-writers who grab a piece of copy from a white newspaper and rewrite it (or attempt to) have been saying that Robinson is the first Negro to play in organized baseball.

Fay Young

This is far from the truth and we have said so on many occasions.

That word "first" is mighty dangerous and is usually by-passed by historians and newspapermen. We recall recently reading that the first Catholic bishop in America was the son of an Irishman and a Negro mother and that this Negro was president of what is now Georgetown University.

* * *

WE HAVE BEFORE US the photo of the first varsity nine of Oberlin College in Ohio. This picture was of the Oberlin team of 1881. That is 65 years ago. On it were two brothers, Moses Fleetwood Walker, a catcher, and Weldy Wilberforce Walker, rightfielder. The two players were the sons of Dr. Moses W. Walker of Steubenville, Ohio. The University of Michigan was able to get Moses Walker away from Oberlin in 1882 and 1883 and he played on the Wolverine team, winning his letters both years.

In 1884 Moses Walker joined the Toledo Club of the Northwestern League, which included Toledo, O., and Saginaw, Mich.; Peoria, Quincy and Springfield, all Illinois towns, and Fort Wayne, Ind. Walker caught. In those days catchers used their bare hands. Strange as it may seem, he caught Henry M. "Hank" O'Day (later to become famous as an umpire). O'Day won 22 and lost 7 in 1883. Walker caught in 60 games and had a batting average of .251.

In 1884, Toledo secured a franchise in the old American Association, which operated as a major league from 1882 to 1891 and consisted of clubs from New York, Columbus, Louisville, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Toledo, Brooklyn, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis and Washington. Walker played with Toledo in 1884. He worked in 46 games and his batting average was .251.

* * *

HE WAS HISSED AND insulted in Louisville where the fans rode him because he was a Negro. Said the Toledo Blade of May 4, 1884:

". . . Color line is closely drawn in Louisville. Many a good player, under less aggravating circumstances than this, has become rattled and unable to play. It is not creditable to the Louisville management that it should permit such outrageous performances to occur on the grounds."

When the Louisville team went to Toledo, the Ohio fans so roundly booed the visitors that the Blade had to remind the Toledoans that "the Kentucky club was a gentlemanly and honorable aggregation and was not responsible for the conduct of the spectators at the Louisville ball park."

Walker was released from Toledo in September, 1884, because of poor health. The Blade said farewell to "a conscientious player who was very popular with the Toledo fans."

In 1885, Walker caught a short time for the Cleveland club, then a member of the Western Leagueman Organization of six clubs which folded up before the end of the summer. From Cleveland, Walker went to Waterbury, Conn., and played there until the end of 1886.

Sat 3-23-46

He was a member of the Newark, N. J., club in 1887 and caught the famous Negro pitcher, George Stovey, that season. Stovey's record still remains as tops in the International League.

In 1888, Walker was with Syracuse and in 1890, with Terre Haute of the Western Association. His last professional season was with Oconto, Wis. He retired from baseball and turned to journalism. After working as a newspaper editor, he became proprietor of a hotel and later owner and manager of several moving picture houses and of the opera house in Cadiz, Ohio.

Walker's first wife was Arabelle Taylor who became the mother of his three sons. She died in 1893. He then married Edna Jane Mason, a graduate of Oberlin College. Walker died in Cleveland, Ohio, in [illegible]

Campanella Set for Nashua Bow

Afro American

Baltimore, Md.

NASHUA, N.H.—Roy Campanella, former Baltimore Elite Giant catcher, has been named by Manager Walter Alston as first choice for the catching assignment when the Nashua Dodgers open the New England League season here Wednesday.

Campanella was in the lineup last Sunday as the Dodgers, a farm team of Brooklyn of the National League, whipped the Nashua Hoboes.

Don Newcombe, pitcher who formerly played with the Newark Eagles, saw mound duty against the Pawtucket Slaters, also of the New England loop.

The opening game lineup of the Nashua club is listed by Alston as follows:

Sat 5-11-46

DODGERS

Woods, second base
Rehm, shortstop
Lipka, third base
Porter, left field
Detzel, center field
Bodan, right field
Campanella, catch
Alston, first base
Brown, pitch
Newcombe, pitch
O'Neil, pitch

Feller's All-Stars Rap Negroes, 7-5

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga. Sat. 10-12-46

RICHMOND, Ind., Oct. 11—(AP) Bob Feller was blasted for five runs in two innings by Satchel Paige's Negro All-Stars Thursday, but the Feller All-Stars rallied to win the exhibition baseball game 7 to 5.

The Paigers landed on Feller for eight solid hits in the first two frames, and the Cleveland fireballer yielded to Dutch Lenard of the Washington Senators at the start of the third. Leonard shut out the Negroes with five hits in seven innings.

A Day at Mexico's Delta Park . . .

Daily Worker New York

By MICHAEL SINGER Daily Worker Staff Correspondent

MEXICO CITY.—Yesterday the weatherman had said "rain in the afternoon" so the ballgame was scheduled for 11:30 this morning. On the radio, in the late afternoon editions yesterday and in the morning papers today, the news was flashed—"Beisball Ahora, 11:30 a.m." As long as there's three hours of sunshine in Mexico, there's a game scheduled. The weatherman is the real umpire here. If he says rain in the morning, the game will be played in the afternoon; if it's wet grounds in the afternoon, it's "beisball" after breakfast. The fans hang on to that weather report like a battle communique.

Jul. 5-7-46

Today the sun blazed high and hot and all roads led to Delta Park. Instead of hot dogs, it's tortillas, tacos, rajas or mole berde, all of them delicacies served piping hot and strong from pushcarts outside the field. Getting into the swing of things, I tore into an enchilado, a pancake wrapped around an assortment of meats and sweets, which after two mouthfuls made me stagger toward the gate convinced that the Mexican fan is the strongest diamond zealot in the world.

It was the third inning and we heard sounds reminiscent of Ebbets Field. Even our illiterate Spanish could make sense of the mood of the fans. The umpire was being "moidered." From the stands we heard "Esta matado el umpire" (kill the umpire and "Usted puerco" (you pig). He had called a strike on a low curve against Danny Gardella, first sacker for Vera Cruz and idol of the fans here.

Gardella takes his baseball very seriously now. He stepped out of the box without a grimace. Colorful without the old extravagant showmanship which delighted the Polo Grounds bleacherites last year, the converted outfielder is playing the kind of ball that Mel Ott needs badly at this moment. A moment later he proved it.

Terris McDuffie, Negro pitcher for Torreon, zipped over a low fast one and Gardella rammed its 415 feet for a soaring "cuadrangulare," a homer in any language.

The fans went wild with joy. But the real sight was the scene at home plate. The entire Vera Cruz team with Mickey Owen jumping up and down in ecstatic delight, formed a reception committee for the socking Gardella. They embraced him, pumped his hand, slapped his back, kissed him and almost carried him to the dugout.

We were sitting between a Mexican delivery boy who said he had spent his last $2.50 pesos to sit "en sol" (the bleachers) and a Negro student. They tried to pound each other's back in their joy but instead almost slapped me out of the park. With profuse apologies they explained they were only happy.

Terris McDuffie, Negro twirling star for the Torreon team of the Mexican League.

When I told them I was happy too, they pleaded with me to write the papers in the states, that "here in Mexico we want happy baseball like this, not 'el Gigantes de Nuevo York' who made Gardella unhappy and not like Dodgers who make our Mickey fight for extra centavos (cents)."

The fans here and throughout the Mexican League are keenly interested in the welfare of their players. They want to know if they are happy, if they live well, if they have an apartment, if they like the fans, if they get along well together.

The Mexican in front smoking a cigar that almost blacked out the pitcher's box, said that in a few years Mexico would have teams like the "Yanquis de Nueva York." The bleacherites close by agreed lustily.

"Right now," the Negro student said, "we aren't good enough for the Yanks or the Cards—but wait. Some day soon we'll be playing an international World Series between Mexican, Cuban and U. S. clubs."

Our conversation was interrupted by a whistle—one, long, ear-splitting whistle from 20,000 fans. They were "booing" the Torreon pitcher for purposely giving Bob Estallela, Vera Cruz Cuban outfielder and home run king, "toma la base" (a walk). "Bandido" shouted the Mexican with the smoking blimp in front of me. "Abajo Monterro" was another suggestion I heard directed at the pitcher.

When the last echo faded I told my bleacher friends that they were even better than Dodger fans. "Si, but we really love Monterro too." They love home team players, opposing players—they love all their baseball players and yet no more partisan fan exists than out here.

We talked it over between innings with Mickey Owen.

"That's why I like it here," he said, "you can really feel the spirit of the fans, even without pop bottles. Sure they sound excited but they'll cut their arms off before hurting your feelings."

Owens poured out praise for the Negro players in the league. "A great bunch of fellows and damned good players." He said there was no such thing as racial discrimination.

"Shucks," he exclaimed, "they don't know a color bar down here, not in this league. A man plays ball, white or Negro, and does the best he can. That's all the clubs want, that's all the fans ask. And that's the way it should be."

He admitted he sometimes missed Brooklyn and the fans back home, but "I'm happy here."

"I'm getting a good salary, I'm treated fine and I feel like a free man with no fears and no worries like I had in the big time," he asserted. "Once those ball players up in the states get wise to themselves that they've got to be treated as human beings by the magnates and not like machines to be bought and sold and sent dow the river when they're worn out, we'll see a new day in baseball. And it might begin right here, Yes sir, there's a future for baseball in Mexico."

Ramon Bragana, his Spanish-speaking Cuban Negro manager, who at 36 is still pitching winning ball, agreed about "a big future here."

"Next year when more big league players come down, the owners in the major leagues will have to do a lot of thinking," he declared.

Freddie Gonzalez, peppery Vera-Cruz Negro shortstop, added:

"It won't be too long before we'll be playing against major league competition, it's got to be. The average ball player is getting hep to things and the chattel contracts they still chain you with isn't as strong as it used to be. Sure they've outlawed us from big league ball for five years, so what? We get by down here and a lot better than up there"—pointing north to the U. S.

Charlie Mead, up with the Giants last year and now with Vera Cruz, pointed to Martin Dihigo, Cuban Negro manager—1st baseman of Torreon, who was roaring at George Hausman, Torreon 2nd sacker. Hausman had been out of position on a hard hit grounder off Roy Henshow's bat and the Vera Cruz pitcher was safe at first.

"Boy, look at that Dihigo curse in Spanish, willya," Mead laughed.

"George don't understand a word but he looks as if he gets the idea," Owen said.

"Well, what he doesn't understand, Dihigo will explain in English later," Gardella added.

But Bragana fanned for the last out and the Vera Cruz threat was over. Dihigo ran over to Hausmar and put his arm around the infielder's shoulder.

The fans applauded the gesture, A Negro player and last year's Giants second baseman walked across a Mexico ball park with their arms around each other—that's baseball below the border.

BEATS FELLER

New York, N.Y. Mon. 10-7-46

Satchel Paige again outpitched Bobby Feller yesterday at the Yankee Stadium before 35,000 fans as his Negro All-Stars beat Feller's big league All-Stars, 4-0. Paige gave up three hits and no runs in five innings, while the Negro Stars rapped Feller for two runs.

It was the second victory for the Paige team against Feller's team, which has won four in the series which will cover the country. The Paige team is recruited from the two Negro leagues, while Feller's team has such stars as American League batting champ Vernon, Rizzuto, Keller, Chapman, Hayes, Berardino and Keltner.

Paige is proving that even at the age of 40 he probably would have been an easy 20-game winner in the big leagues.

PAIGE AGAIN

Daily Worker

Roy Partlow Joins Montreal Club; J. Wright Sent To Class "C" League

The Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va.

MONTREAL (NNPA) — Roy Partlow, ace southpaw pitcher of the Philadelphia Stars, was signed last Tuesday by the Montreal Royals of the International Baseball League.

The 30-year-old hurler thus became the third colored star to win a Montreal contract following in the footsteps of Jackie Robinson, a second baseman, and Pitcher John Wright. Wright was farmed out last week to Three Rivers, Canada, a Brooklyn farm club in the Class "C" Canadian-American League.

Partlow, who lives in Philadelphia, hurled 17 games last year for the Stars, winning nine and losing four. His .692 average was the second best in the Negro National League.

He was purchased by the Stars from the Homestead Grays and has seen five years' service in the colored circuit. A war veteran, he became a member of the Stars' hurling corps after service in the Army during 1944.

TERMS NOT KNOWN

Partlow was scheduled to report to the Montreal Royals last Wednesday. Terms of the contract which he holds with the Royals were not disclosed.

Partlow, who recorded 83 strikeouts in 1945, probably attracted the attention of Branch Rickey, head of the parent Brooklyn Club, last year when he pitched in an exhibition game at Ebbets Field. Partlow hurled one of two contests there between the National League All-Stars and Negro National League Stars.

WIFE THRILLED

Partlow left Philadelphia last Monday to report to Rickey in Brooklyn for instructions in regard to his Montreal trip, his wife said in Philadelphia Tuesday.

Mrs. Partlow also said that both Roy and she are "really thrilled" over her husband's opportunity to play in organized baseball.

REJECTS MEXICAN BID

She added that Roy had rejected a "$600-a-month" offer from Jorge Pasquel to jump to the Mexican League this season. Previous experience with baseball south-of-the-border convinced Partlow that he wanted no part of the Mexican circuit adventure, she explained.

Partlow twirled for Puerto Rico last winter and has also pitched for teams in Mexico, Cuba and South America. Pasquel endeavored to sign him for his Torreon club in the Mexican League, Mrs. Partlow said.

Sat. 5-25-46

Born and educated in Cincinnati, Partlow played with the Cincinnati Tigers prior to joining the Homestead Grays. He married the former Dorothy Nelson, of Philadelphia, in November, 1939, and since then the Partlows have made their home in that city.

Pittsburgh Courier

NEGRO BASEBALL'S KEY MEN—These three men are the most important in Negro baseball today. If they get their "house in order," Organized Baseball may accept the two major Negro leagues. Left to right: Tom Wilson, president of the Negro American League; Cum Posey, secretary of the National League, and J. B. Martin, president of the Negro American League. Wilson and Martin apparently have been conferring with Chandler, while Posey has turned "rebel" and has refused to participate in any conferences with major league officials until he can get the Negro owners to develop a concrete program.

1-26-46

Hundreds View Remains of Famed Baseball Leader

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat 4-6-46

By CHES WASHINGTON

Surrounded by a sea of flowers, a fragrant tribute to the sagacious sportsman who made the Homestead Grays as magic a name in the baseball world as Joe Louis in the fistic firmament, and incidentally put the little steel town of Homestead on the athletic map, Cum Posey lay in state here Sunday as thousands of friends of both races paused in a final salute to a brilliant athlete, a peerless magnate and an outstanding civic leader.

The late Mr. Posey, co-owner of the fabulous Grays and a member of the Board of Education of Homestead for fifteen years, passed away at the Mercy Hospital after a lingering illness.

STILL CHAMPS TO CUM

When Posey—a man who always loved to win—was called out by the Great Umpire last Thursday, his beloved Homestead High School basketball team, coached by his devoted pal, Chic Davies, was the champion . . . of Western Pennsylvania. They had just defeated Warren High, 44 to 13 Tuesday night in a victory which had truly warmed Cum's heart as life was ebbing slowly away.

So Saturday night, when all that was mortal of the former hardwood great had departed, and the team had wired his widow that they were out "to win this one for Cum," and even though Homestead bowed before Allentown, the boys were still "champs" to Cum.

WAS BRILLIANT ATHLETE AND OWNER

Sometimes a brilliant athlete soars like a fiery skyrocket and spreads his name in glittering letters across Sportdom's lofty skies. Cum hung up a glorious record as a super-star in basketball and baseball at Duquesne U., and Penn State, and then some stars quickly fade like an exploding star-shell when their athletic careers are over . . . and fade from the sports world into oblivion. But not so with Cum . . .

Displaying the same shrewdness and cleverness as a business manager and later as a co-owner first with Charley Walker and later with Rufus (Sonnyman) Jackson, Cum built the Homestead Grays up to the point where they became one of the famous baseball teams in the Nation.

Under the capable direction of Posey and Jackson, the Grays not only developed into a big business institution, but won the National Negro League pennant for eight consecutive seasons.

Meanwhile, the National League, well aware of Posey's baseball genius and knowledge, elected him to the post of secretary, which position he served with credit and efficiency until his passing.

Numbered among the famous names who left their imprints on Baseball's sands of time while wearing Homestead Gray uniforms are Smokey Joe Williams, Oscar Charleston, Jap Washington, Vic Harris, Josh Gibson, Sell Hall, Oscar "Iron Man" Owens and many others.

Sat 4-6-46

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By CESAR TEMES

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

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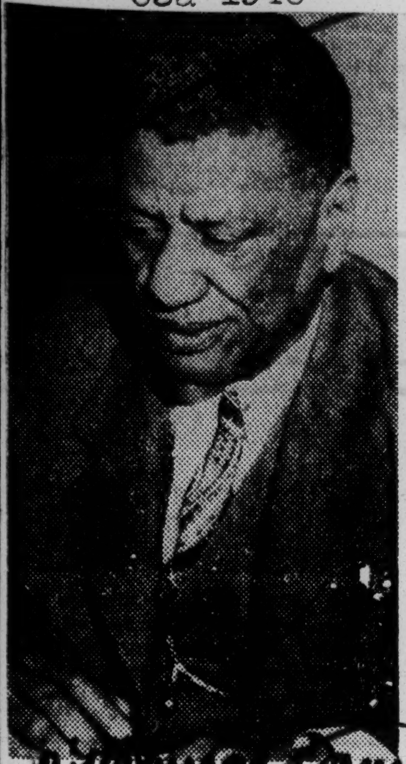
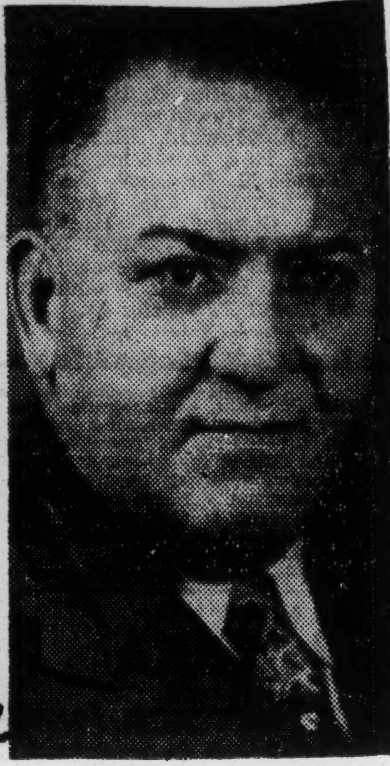
Mar 3-11-46





NEGRO BASEBALL'S KEY MEN—These three men are the most important in Negro baseball today. If they get their "house in order," Organized Baseball may accept the two major Negro leagues. Left to right: Tom Wilson, president of the Negro American League; Cum Posey, secretary of the National League, and J. B. Martin, president of the Negro American League. Wilson and Martin apparently have been conferring with Chandler, while Posey has turned "rebel" and has refused to participate in any conferences with major league officials until he can get the Negro owners to develop a concrete program.

Hundreds View Remains of Famed Baseball Leader

By CHES WASHINGTON

Surrounded by a sea of flowers, a fragrant tribute to the sagacious sportsman who made the Homestead Grays as magic a name in the baseball world as Joe Louis in the fistic firmament, and incidentally put the little steel town of Homestead on the athletic map, Cum Posey lay in state here Sunday as thousands of friends of both races paused in a final salute to a brilliant athlete, a peerless magnate and an outstanding fistic leader.

The late Mr. Posey, co-owner of the fabulous Grays and a member of the Board of Education of Homestead for fifteen years, passed away at the Mercy Hospital after a lingering illness.

STILL CHAMPS TO CUM

When Posey—a man who always loved to win—was called out by the Great Umpire last Thursday, his beloved Homestead High School basketball team, coached by his devoted pal, Chic Davies, was the champion of Western Pennsylvania. They had just defeated Warren High, 44 to 13 Tuesday night in a victory which had truly warmed Cum's heart as life was ebbing slowly away.

So Saturday night, when all that was mortal of the former hardwood great had departed, and the team had wired his widow that they were out "to win this one for Cum," and even though Homestead bowed before Allentown, the boys were still "champs" to Cum.

WAS BRILLIANT ATHLETE AND OWNER

Sometimes a brilliant athlete soars like a fiery skyrocket and spreads his name in glittering letters across Sportdom's lofty skies. Cum hung up a glorious record as a super-star in basketball and baseball at Duquesne U., and Penn State, and then some stars quickly fade like an exploding star-shell when their athletic careers are over . . . and fade from the sports world into oblivion. But not so with Cum . . .

Displaying the same shrewdness and cleverness as a business manager and later as a co-owner first with Charley Walker and later with Rufus (Sonnyman) Jackson, Cum built the Homestead Grays up to the point where they became one of the famous baseball teams in the Nation.

Under the capable direction of Posey and Jackson, the Grays not only developed into a big business institution, but won the National Negro League pennant for eight consecutive seasons.

Meanwhile, the National League, well aware of Posey's baseball genius and knowledge, elected him to the post of secretary, which position he served with credit and efficiency until his passing.

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'This Means End of Ball Jimcrow Soon' -- Gardella, Owen

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Sat 5-11-46

By MICHAEL SINGER
Daily Worker Staff Correspondent

PUEBLO, May 6.—It was Cinco de Mayo—Mexico's July 4 yesterday—and the town was in a high state of excitement. The U.S. generals were here—Wainright, Spaatz, Devers, Dootlittle—and they moved around the city from one fiesta to another. But the people went to the ball park!

Little Danny Gardella was tossing pebbles in the air and slapping them out into the infield before the game. He had hit two homers the day before against Pueblo and played a sensational game at first. And now Danny was feeling better than ever.

It took a while to make Gardella stand still long enough to talk. "Me, I'm frisky like a colt, got a lot of blood and pep," he laughed. "What do you want me to say?"

Back in the Polo Grounds, the Danny Gardella fans were sorry to see him go, we said. "Sure, they are, I played good ball for the Giants last year, hit 18 homers, improved my fielding; they liked me, I liked them, so I get the business anyway."

"What business?" Sat 5-11-46

"The old slave act," the 24-year-old peppery Italian replied. He whizzed a bat at the air and screened his eyes with a palm as if to watch the flight of the imaginary ball. "Over the fence, a homer," he shouted. "You want the real story, without punches, eh? OK, here it is."

"They call me a whacky ball player because I fool around a bit. Well, I'm not crazy. I know what I'm doing and what I deserve.

"A man who plays baseball either loves the game or gets out. Or else he gets paid money for playing. There's got to be an incentive to playing ball. Baseball is a trade like any other and ball players work at it like workers in any other industry. When workers don't get paid enough, they demand more. They have a union or something. Ball players have to take it or scram.

"The Giants, men like Brannick, Ott and Stoneman, were forming a hostile attitude to the players. We were supposed to be humble and stupid, like oxen."

Gardella pointed to Mickey Owen, standing by, and said, "Right, Mickey?"

"Right, Danny."

"So, OK, during the war the owners needed us. They didn't rough us too much because they needed us. But when the war was over and the players returned, we got the business—but good."

"Like workers in other trades," Owens added.

Danny continued. "They offered me $4,500. I asked $7,000. I was ready to settle for $5,000, but Ott refused.

"'We don't want you now, Danny,' Ott told me."

"I believe the guy was jealous, honest," Gardella added. "I had been hitting swell and getting the fans out. Well, even if he wasn't jealous, he sure acted unbusiness-like."

"Do you miss playing at the Polo Grounds?"

"Sure, I do. I would want to play home very much. I don't like to travel particularly. But what could I do? And Ott's remarks that I was an inconsiderate ballplayer is wrong and false. Imagine saying I was not ungrateful when I was ready to forego $10,000 here to play for $5,000 up there."

"Are you happy?" Sat 5-11-46

"You bet I am. So are the rest of us. Pasquel is building a new baseball world out here with parks, apartments, accommodations, and a decent salary. This Pasquel is developing an entire new attitude to players. He's more scrupulous towards them. Out here a man plays because he can play, not because he's white or a friend of the owner.

"Players of all races and color are here. Morally, the future of baseball is in Mexico. And another thing, the old era of Ruthian baseball is coming soon, with white and Negroes part of it. It foreshadows the end of the big league bans on Negroes. Yip, I'm happy."

He took another swing at an imaginary ball, waved and went off to batting practice.

"And they call **him** whacky!" Owens remarked. "Say, you can say ditto for me on all that, too."

Jim Crow in Sports

Times Dispatch Richmond, Va.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I saw recently in your paper that a game scheduled with the Montreal club and Eddie Mooers' own Richmond Colts has been canceled because two Negro players were supposed to participate. The game would not only have been a financial success but it would have increased sportsmanship between the races.

When I am attending a game it has never occurred to me whether the participants were white or Negroes, because I am so wrapped up in the game I don't have time to distinguish the players by color or nationality. Believe me, this incident has put Richmond and its sports-loving fans in an embarrassing situation. I wonder if the sport fans of Richmond remember back in 1935, when Lincoln University and Union University played their annual football classic. In that particular game the young fellow playing center for Lincoln was Ralph Oeves, the only white player on the squad. The game was played on Hovey Field. Let's wake up, Richmond, and progress in all walks of life. 4-19-46

GARNETT JULIUS HAYES,
(Veteran).
Petersburg.

SATCH TOPS BULLET BOB

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed 10-2-46

SATCHEL PAIGE, 40 year old Negro star who was probably as great a pitcher as ever threw a ball at his peak, outhurled young Bobby Feller, new strikeout king, in a game at Pittsburgh Monday night. Satch and Bob each went three innings. Satch fanned four and gave one hit and one run. Bob fanned three and allowed two hits and one run. Barney Brown came in and gave the Feller All Stars just one hit for the next six frames, the Negro Stars winning 3-1. The two teams will be at the Stadium Friday night. If you want to see some potential big leaguers in action don't miss this one. You'll also see plenty from Paige, even in his declining days. For three innings Satch can still bear down and muster a flash of his old magnificence. 10-2-46

Jackie Hits at .324 Clip; Campy Homers in Opener

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Jackie Robinson, the Montreal Royals' star second-baseman, is currently rolling along at a highly respectable .324 batting clip. For the 25 games he's played up to and including the Wednesday contest of this week, Robinson has collected 30 hits in 93 times at bat. Fri 5-17-46

Afield, the fleet-footed Negro star has racked up a .933 average, with 40 putouts, 65 assists and seven errors to his credit. While we don't have available the total number of bases stolen by Jackie, he's currently running second in that department behind speedy Marvin Rackley. Robinson's work afield has been particularly impressive in the matter of double-plays he's set up or served in. For example, May 8 at Montreal, Robinson and Alex Campanis reeled off five twin-killings against Newark.

Jackie's reception by the Canadian fans has been simply terrific. A dispatch from Montreal revealed: "Fans here and everywhere he goes are simply idolizing him. They yell to him from the stands, want to talk to him, want to shake his hand, etc." Fri 5-17-46

Yessir—Jackie's made the grade, but good!

* * *

Roy Campanella, the great Negro catcher now playing with the Dodgers' Nashua farm-team in the New England League, made a sensational debut several days ago by poling out a two-run homerun, a double and a single in the league opener against the Lynn Red Sox.

Thus Campanella, former backstop for the Baltimore Elite Giants, duplicated the debut made by Jackie Robinson, who also hit a homerun at Jersey City in his first official game of the season.

Campanella and pitcher Donald Newcombe had been signed by the Dodger farm club on April 5. Since then and up until last Monday they had been in pre-season training with the Nashua squad.

In the two exhibition games they played prior to the season's opener, both Campanella and Newcombe were very impressive. Newcombe pitched three innings of hitless ball on April 26, and struck out seven men. The following day's exhibition game saw the hard-hitting Campanella get three for three—a double, two singles—and batted in four runs.

Despite cold weather, the top attendance mark on the opening day of the New England League season was at the Nashua—Lynn contest, where, despite Campanella's homerun and great hitting, the Lynn aggregation bowed, 7-4.

FROM THE PRESS BOX

Other Teams Must Be Forced to Sign Negroes

By C. E. Dexter

Last winter, Branch Rickey of the Dodgers signed Jackie Robinson and four other Negro players. At least three of them have made good. Jackie, Roy Campanella and Donald Newcombe—and the fourth, Roy Partlow, stands a good chance of promotion, although his age places him under a handicap.

So it is more than likely that by next spring, Robinson will be fighting for a job on the Dodgers, perhaps tagged for third base. And both Campanella and Newcombe will certainly advance to the Montreal Royals if they do not get an immediate chance with the big league parent team. Daily Worker Wed 8-14-46

The fight for real racial democracy in baseball, however, will not be won until other major league clubs have signed Negroes. And now the finger is pointing precisely at Larry MacPhail and Horace Stoneham, owners of the Yankees and Giants respectively. New York, N.Y.

It is a fact that the good work done by the Negro players in the Dodger chain has in a measure lulled the progressive and labor forces which have been in the forefront of the end-Jimcrow campaign for ten years—with the result that little pressure has been brought this season against other big league magnates.

In respect to this point, the truth about the Mickey Owen case is that Mickey was not able to keep pace with the Mexican League stars who hail from the United States, West Indies and Latin America. The standard of play in the Mexican League cannot easily be compared to big league play because teams from the two organizations have not met. But it is evident to anyone who has watched major league baseball this season that its quality has deteriorated. On the other hand, observers who have watched the Mexican League say that in point of spirit, as well as ability, the mixed teams below the Rio Grande are playing better ball than those north of the border.

I hate to use the word behoove, but it certainly behooves the progressive forces which consider the Jimcrow fight in baseball an important aspect of the general struggle for Negro equality, to resume their places and to carry on the organized campaign which brought such good results one year ago. Wed 8-14-46

A great many facts have been proved since then. You no longer hear the arguments that Negro players are not as good as white players, or that southern players will not play on the same teams with them, or that they will meet with total discrimination. They are not only widely welcomed but are heroes, as white stars are heroes wherever they excel.

General

Sports Roundup

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Mon. 8/19/46

MAJOR LEAGUES NEED NEGRO BALL STARS, SPORTSWRITER SAYS

Daily Worker readers will be interested in this forthright column on Negro baseball stars written by sports columnist Roger Treat of the WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS before the East-West All Star Negro game played there last week:

There will be a ball game before a sell-out crowd at Griffith Stadium tomorrow night, and the caliber of play may be the highest seen at the old ball yard in many months, or years. It's the East-West All-Star game of the Negro leagues, and there won't be a man on the field who could not add strength to a major league club.

But big league baseball is still just playing around the edges of being a true American sport and Negro stars still play for peanuts, or go to Mexico, or Cuba, to sell their abilities.

Josh Gibson will be catching for the East team, and there can be little doubt that Gibson, now 34 years old, has been the best catcher of the past 15 years. We write this with full appreciation of the ability of Mickey Cochrane, Bill Dickey, Gabby Hartnett and Walker Cooper.

Gibson's rifle throw, his graceful carriage, his thundering bat, have long been famous wherever baseball is played. Each year, in only a few games, he hits more homers in the local stadium than all the major leaguers do in 77 scheduled games.

HE WAS BORN WRONG

But fate brought Gibson into the world as the son of Negro parents, and for reasons of prejudice, ignorance and small-minded hatreds that set Gibson apart from a sport which welcomes Germans, Chinese, Irish, Indians, Englishmen, Russians, Poles, Italians, Jews or any other race you care to mention. 8/19/46

Walter "Buck" Leonard, first baseman for the Homestead Grays, a veteran of nine All-Star games, will be playing tomorrow night. Leonard is another whose brilliant fielding and crashing bat would have been of benefit to major league teams.

Leon Day, born in Alexandria, Va., 28 years ago, will be one of the pitchers for the East team. He holds strikeout records as high as 18 per game against the strongest Negro batting orders; he has beaten the one and only Satch Paige many times. He can play any position on the field, and play it well.

Do you think the Athletics could use a player like that? Or the Washington Senators?

LARRY MAY 'GO UP'

Larry Doby, college graduate, track star, football star, basketball star, baseball star, 22 years old, plays infield for the Newark Eagles after serving in the Navy through the war. He was scouted recently by Joe Cambria, is expected to follow Jackie Robinson into the white leagues. Larry will play for the East. 8/19/46

AS FAST AS PAIGE

When a pitcher is rated faster than Satchell Paige at his best, he is a pitcher with a scorching ball. And that is what they are saying about Dan Bankhead, a right-hander unbeaten since returning from the Marine Corps. Bankhead, with two brothers starring in Negro baseball, mighe be a 30-game winner in the white major leagues, but they are not ready for him yet. Bankhead will pitch for the West.

Johnny Williams, another West moundsman, picked by Bob Feller as one of the best pitchers he has ever seen, is a 21-year-old rookie from Chicago

Old Alex Radcliffe, long a favorite wherever Negro baseball is played, will put in his ninth appearance in the All-Star game. He's a third baseman, and he is 36 years old, but if you compare his present ability with that of some who fumble around the hot corner in the majors today, you wonder when the club owners are going to give up their preposterous color ban.

BRANCH RICKEY OPENED THE GATE

Jimcrow got a sound kick in his moldy teeth last winter when the Brooklyn empire signed Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright. Since then a few more Negroes have joined minor league clubs.

But here tomorrow is a treasure house of talent, a roster of ability that would run into millions, if a sudden phenomenon changed the color of two dozen men.

Slowly, with exasperating timidity, baseball is opening the gates of fairness and sportsmanship to all men. When the maggotty minds of the Bilboes, Talmadges and Rankins are gone, it will truly be our national game. Only a little courage and integrity is needed to open the gates wide, and Branch Rickey, with all his alleged faults, has had the honor of demonstrating that it doesn't hurt a bit.

Negro Stars Fool Baseball Critics

The World Memphis, Tenn. Tues. 9-17-46

By "DOC" KOUNTZE

BOSTON— (ANP) —Al Smith, that beloved champion of the common man, used to put it this way, "Well, let's look at the record."

So, being it's a long time since the 1946 umpires yelled opening game play ball, let's lamp the records of sepia stars in the freshman year of their play in organized baseball.

JACKIE FOOLED 'EM

Let's look at Jackie Robinson, 2nd baseman for the Montreal Royals of the triple A International league; former member of the Kansas City Monarch of the sepia (at least Class A American league.

As the Cubans say, Jackie good field, no hit. That's what the wise guys said when this ex-Uclan All-American (and present U. S. war vet—don't forget that, son) made his spotlighted debut in the south last spring. Well, Robinson was just foolin' the white folks because there never was a KC Monarch who couldn't hit. I know that and I live around Boston so, the final regular I. L. season (the playoffs are extra) shows Robinson leading all batters with the most runs too. What a laugh he had, only he's too modest to laugh. His

KC ex-team mates laughed for Jackie.

ROY HOMERUN KING

Big Dan Newcombe and scrappy Roy Campanella would be my choice for the ball players of 1946 to be rated next to Jackie. The only colored battery in the minor leagues, these stars came up from the colored National league. Roy led the New England League this year in homeruns and batted over .300. Newcombe not only was a slugging pitcher, he also won 14 ball games for those second place Nashua Dodgers. Big Don was right at the top of the list although he made his debut late.

"Camp," the catcher, worked extra hard in his freshman year. He mostly caught for white pitchers, often in double headers. Every one wanted "Camp" behind the plate because he was tops in the trade. Roy worked so hard that his batting suffered and it was a terrific triumph when he managed to keep in the .300 circle. It was a surprise when he went out and led the league with 14 homeruns.

NEWCOMBE LED PITCHERS

So the wise boys guessed wrong on both "Camp" and Jackie. And being underdogs, it helped them exceed expectations. Many will still say Jackie and Camp aren't the best second baseman and catcher in either the sepia National or American. But we must concede they have been good representatives.

Newcombe has been a pleasant surprise and also a keen reflection on th ability of Rickey's scouts. The rookie pitchers, headed by Newcombe, all made good this year. Newcombe won 14 and lost only 4. Johnny Wright and Roy Partow were moved down to Three Rivers of the Can-American league but they'll not stay there. At last readings, Johnny had the same 12-4 card as Big Don Newcombe. That was before Don won two more. Partow had nine wins and no losses. So Newcombe, Wright and Partow were in the top listing of their leagues.

Negro Baseball Aces Canadian Favorites

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

Jackie Robinson, John Wright, Roy Partlow Called The Ambassadors of Sports Goodwill

Sat. 8-17-46

By JIMMY DAVIES

MONTREAL—"He's sensational, he's terrific," that is all one can hear these days around Delormier Downs' home of the Montreal Baseball Club presently leading the International league.

One ignorantly asks "who's sensational and who is said to be so terrific?", no one can guess this unless they have been reading the local sport pages or who are baseball minded and have been going to see the games. The "terrific and sensational" one is Jack Roosevelt Robinson, better known in baseball as Jackie Robinson, Black Jack of the Montreal Royals that hardly misses a turn at the dish.

Jackie Great With Stick

Jackie Robinson, first Negro player to be signed by Branch Rickey in defiance of baseball's previous unwritten color ban, has continued to hit so regularly that he has elevated his batting mark to .367, which makes him the club's leading bater in a bracket all by himself. Robinson, the second base man for the Dodger farm club and number one "guinea pig" for Rickey's experiment, has been playing ball "like nobody's business". The colored star has been such a wonderful ball player and all-round diamond man that it is thought locally that he will not be with the team next year but in the uniform of the mother club.

The triple-A ball player has kept second base under control so well that it is thought no one in organized ball to date will take the keystone sack away from Jackie.

The ex-lieutenant in the U. S. Army, and former all round athlete with UCLA and shortstop for the Kansas City Monarchs, performed so well in spring training that his playing and performances were definitely what led Rickey to sign two more Negro ballplayers, John Wright and Roy Partlow.

John Wright, who has been optioned out to Three Rivers is a right handed hurdler, with control on all his curves. His optioning to Three Rivers does not mean he was not a good ball player; all the ex-GI needed was a fast ball that is needed in the triple-A league. Wright is doing well in the Canadian - American league and is improving steadily.

Roy Partlow Wins Six

Third Negro to be signed by Rickey and company was Roy Partlow, 30 year right handed hurler, who pitched for the Philadelphia Stars. He is 6 ft. 4 and weighs around 185 pounds and father of twin girls. Pitcher Partlow is still the property of the Brooklyn Dodgers but is now playing for the Three Rivers team. Partlow has won six games and has no losses to his credit.

These lads are only a few that can be named as being ambassadors of good will. These boys have proved that given a chance to perform they can break down not only unwritten laws, but discrimination.

Crawfords Play In Montreal

The performances of these three led Branch Rickey to organize a Negro ball club here in Montreal by the name of Crawfords. They play here when the Royals are out on the road and draw anywhere from three to eight thousand fans. Being unable to get all the dates required for league operation, they split their home games between here and Pittsburgh, being the "home team" in both cities.

Colored athletes in Canada are treated with no discrimination, and are proving to be great drawing cards in all sports where they show that they are good sports. This has been noticed especially at Delormier Downs', where all hold respect for a true and great Ambasador and Diplomat in the person of Jackie Robinson.

JACKIE ROBINSON ENDS SEASON WITH MOST HITS AND RUNS WITH LEAGUE LEADING MONTREAL

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Fooled the Boys While Down in Dixie On Exhibition Visit

ROY CAMPANELLA "HOME RUN" KING

Sat. 9-14-46

BOSTON — (ANP) — Al Smith, that beloved champion of the common man, use to put it this way: "Well, let's look at the record."

So, being it's a long time since the 1946 umpires yelled opening game play ball, let's lamp the records of sepia stars in the freshman year of their play in organized baseball.

Let's look at Jackie Robinson, second baseman for the Montreal Royals of the triple A. International league; former member of the Kansas City Monarchs of the sepia (at least Class A) American league.

As the Cubans say, Jackie good field, no hit. That what the wise guys said when this ex-Uclan All-AAmerican (and present U. S. war vet—don't forget that, son) made his spotlight debut in the south last spring. Well, Robinson was just foolin' the white folks because there never was a KC Monarch who can't hit. I know that and I live around Boston. So, the final regular I. L. season(the play-offs are extra) shows Robinson leading all batters and with the most runs too. What a laugh he had, only he's too modest to laugh. His KC ex-team mates laughted for Jackie.

Roy Homerun King

Big Dan Newcombe and scrappy RoyCampanella would by my choice for the ball players of 1946 to be rated next to Jackie. The only colored batter in the minor leagues, these stars came up from the colored National league. Roy led the New England league this year in homeruns and batted over .300. Newcombe not only was a slugging pitcher, he also won 14 ball games for those second place Nashua Dodgers. Big Dan was right at the top of the list although he made his debut late.

"Camp," the catcher, worked extra hard in his freshman year. He mostly caught for white pitchers, often in double headers. Every one wanted "Camp" behind the plate because he was tops in the trade. Roy worked so hard that his batting suffered and it was really a terrific triumph when he managed to keep in the .300 circle. It was a surprise when he went out and led the league with 14 home runs.

Newcombe Led Pitchers

So the wise boys guessed wrong on both "Camp" and Jackie. And being underdogs, it helped them exceed expectations. Many will still say Jackie and Camp aren't the best second basemen and catcher in either the sepia National or American. But we must concede they have been good representatives.

Newcombe has been a pleasant surprise and also a keen reflection on the ability of Rickey's scouts. The rookie pitchers, headed by Newcombe, all made good this year. Newcomb won 14 and only lost four. Johnny Wright and Roy Partow were moved down to Three Rivers of the Can-American league but they'll not stay there. At last readings, Johnny had the same 12-4 card as Big Don Newcombe. That was before Dan won two more. Partow had nine wins and no losses. So Newcombe and Partow were in the top list of their leagues.

And the boys tell me the Charlie Bird pitched some brilliant ball for Providence, a second division club of the N. E. league. Now if this is the same Charlie Bird who pitched for such outfits as Fall river you will hear a lot about him. Bird was one of the top strikeout artists in the league this year fanning over 130 batters. At last reports he had won 11, lost 10.

I told New England league rexv, Claude B. Davidson, last winter, that if given a chance, our lads would make good in the minors. So if he wants to look at the records he will find them available.

63a 1946

General

In this corner

the Daily Worker

Bravo! Jackie Shows Way With Mixed Team

New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

Trust Jackie Robinson to hit Jimcrow "tradition" with the same degree of high efficiency that he hit International League pitching to become batting champ of that loop. For when the Robinson All-Stars tackle Charlie Dressen's All-National Leaguers at the Polo Grounds Oct. 1, it will mark the first time that mixed teams will show in the long history of after-season exhibitions. This, my friends, is a tremendous step forward and a welcome change from the usual post-season barnstorming tours wherein an all-Negro team plays an all-white outfit. But the Robinson All-Stars will have two Montreal standouts on its roster, peppery Al Campanis who worked the shortstop half of that Campanis-Robinson double play combination which made the Royals a shoo-in for the International League pennant; and another teammate of Jackie's, none other than Marvin Rackley, the fleet-footed Royal outfielder who beat out Jackie for stolen-base honors.

Yes, this is great news and entirely in keeping with Jackie Robinson's keen sense of awareness of what he's accomplishing in the fight to once and forever banish the Jimcrow scourge from our National Pastime. *Wed. 9-25-46*

And when the Robinson All-Stars open at the Polo Grounds next Tuesday night, it will also afford fans a look-see at other Negro ball hawks who should be in the big leagues right now. I'm thinking of Ray Dandridge, perhaps the greatest Negro third baseman ever, who along with another sure big leaguer, Theolic (Fireball) Smith, is flying up from the Mexican League to participate in the Robinson-Dressen competition. Dandridge and Theo Smith were two of the biggest lights in the Pasquel Loop, and when you get a load of them in action you'll soon understand why all who've seen them say, "Big league material?—and how!"

Also to be seen for the 14-game exhibition tour will be the other gents who've been driving deep wedges into the Jimcrow baseball ban —namely, Roy Campanella and Donald Newcombe of the Nashua Dodgers, and Johnny Wright and Roy Partlow of the Three Rivers club of the Canadian-American League.

The tour will take both clubs to Harrisburg and York and Pittsburgh, Pa.; Cleveland, Dayton and Columbus, in Ohio, and Chicago. Opposing the Robinson All-Stars will be such stars as Petey Reiser, Howie Pollet, Frank McCormick, Buddy Kerr, Whitey Kurowski, Chick Furillo, Virgil Trucks, Hal Gregg and other NL big-timers.

So get yourself a ticket for the big opener at the home of the Giants come Tuesday night. For it will be, as they say in the scripts, a night to remember.

And once again, hats off to Jackie Robinson for putting the word democracy up in lights for all to see—whether it be in the International League, the highly-important post-season exhibition games . . . or in the major leagues, which is just where he's gonna spell out that word next year.

In this corner

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

On Contracts Signed By Negro Stars

Wed. 11-13-46

By Bill Mardo

THE DODGER OFFICE has released facts 'n figures concerning contracts signed by the first five Negro players in organized baseball. Truth is, there's more simple justice in those contracts than even Rickey's milder critics imagined him capable of. Many scribes secretly believed Robinson, Wright, et al. signed for peanuts, being they were more anxious to crack Jimcrow than argue salary. But the Dodger statement, released yesterday, was somewhat of a revelation. All the Negro stars got wages which were either average or above-average for first-year men in their respective leagues. And the bonuses they received for signing brought their total take way up.

BRANCH RICKEY

Jackie Robinson received $3,500 for signing and $600 a month. His cut for the Little World Series brought his seasonal income to the $8,000 mark. That compares favorably with the salary of a first-year man with the parent Brooklyn Dodgers, say Joe Hatten, who drew about $8,000. Or Aaron Robinson of the Yanks who got $6,000 for his rookie year.

Roy Campanella received $2,400 for signing with the Nashua Dodgers, another $500 bonus for post-season work and a monthly stipend of $185. His salary is considered average for Class B ball. His teammate Donald Newcombe drew $350 a month plus a $1,000 bonus.

Pitchers Johnny Wright and Roy Partlow were both signed to International League contracts with the Montreal Royals and drew the same pay when optioned to the lesser Three-Rivers club of the American League. Wright's bonus was $3,250 and his salary $350 a month. Partlow pulled down $1,500 for signing and earned $400 monthly.

Now if we're to be perfectly frank about the business men who rule baseball, and knowing full well they snarl and spit over every penny, the bonuses Rickey gave the five Negro players were quite a revelation. Don't misconstrue what I say, please. We are not enamored of Branch Rickey's wage policies with the Brooklyn organization anymore than we are with those of any club-owner. Rickey and his colleagues give the ballplayer only the smallest fraction of what he draws through the turnstiles—particularly in the lush box-office bonanza of the past season. It's only in full knowledge of the owners' skinflint wages that Rickey's deal with Robinson and Co. surprises me so.

JACKIE ROBINSON

LARRY MACPHAIL should be interested in the next part of the Dodger statement. Roy Partlow was the only one of the five Negro players involved who was under contract to a Negro league team in '46 when Rickey stepped onto the scene. And the Philly Stars were paid $1,000 for Partlow's contract. Of the others, Robinson had no contract with the Kansas City Monarchs. Roy Campanella wasn't signed by the Baltimore Elite Giants for '46. Wright had received an offer but hadn't yet signed a new contract with the Homestead Grays. Donald Newcombe was no longer obligated to Effie Manley's Newark Eagles after the '45 season ended.

Yes, all this should greatly interest Larry MacPhail, who screams to the high heavens that his Yankees will never, never, a million times NEVER, sign a Negro player who is under contract to another club.

Robinson Keeps Pace With Flying Royals; Roy Partlow Is Released

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 7-20-46

7-20-46

BUFFALO, N.Y.—With Jackie Robinson, their brilliant second baseman, getting two hits in five times at bat, stealing two bases and fielding sensationally, the high-flying Montreal Royals won and lost with the Buffalo Bisons of the International League here Sunday. The visitors took the first game, 7-3, but were edged out in the nightcap by a margin of 7-6. At the end of the Sabbath twin bill, the Royals were 11 games in front of the second place Syracuse Chiefs in league standings.

Jackie Robinson

Jackie counted two singles, one in each game, and immediately pilfered second on both occasions.

He scored on the back end of one of these efforts and tallied again when he got a free ticket to first and was moved around by a homer by Bob Naylor, white teammate.

Robinson also figured in four double-plays during the afternoon, serving as the middle man on two twin-killings started by Johnny Jorgenson, and initiating the other two with Shortstop Al Campanis doing the pivoting.

Meanwhile, the road for Roy Partlow, former Philadelphia Star portside pitcher, has not been so smooth. Partlow was released on a 24-hour option recall to Montreal on Sunday.

The flinger was sent to the Three Rivers Club of the Canadian-American League following a conference at Brooklyn with Dodger President Branch Rickey.

He reported to his new team on Tuesday morning where he joined Johnny Wright, former Homestead Gray hurler, who was released to Three Rivers early last month. Partlow will receive the same salary he was getting at Montreal despite the fact the Canadian-American loop is Class "B" and pays a much lower wage scale.

Rickey told the AFRO Monday morning that Partlow had shown signs of being a good pitcher while at Montreal but that he was lacking in control.

"Both Wright and Partlow are promising," Rickey stated, "and make no mistake about it, they DON'T need experience. What they need more than anything else is orientation.

"Against colored competition," the Dodger president went on, "they are both crackerjack pitchers. But from all appearances they suffer a terrific inferiority complex when they are facing white boys."

Rickey asserted that he has "given up" on neither of the two pitchers. "They both have too much ability for that," he concluded.

'THE NEW JOSH GIBSON'

Daily Worker

The New Josh Gibson. That's what they're calling Luscious Easter, the slugging first baseman of the Cincinnati Crescents, who come into the Yanke Stadium tomorrow to tangle with the House of David in the opener of a twinbill which pits the New York Cubans against the Black Yankees in the nitecap. *Sat. 7-27-46*

But it'll probably be Mister Easter that fans will go home raving about. He plays first base for the Crescents, stands 5-5 and weighs an ample 230 pounds. And why do they consider him the logical heir to Josh Gibson's homerun crown? Only because mister Luscious Easter has already poled out 40 homeruns at this stage of the season. He hits to all fields, does this chunky first-sacker—but more often than not he hits over the fence and clear out of the field. *New York*

Get over to Yankee Stadium tomorrow for a gander at the new slugging sensation of Negro baseball. That first game starts at 2 p.m. *Sat. 7-27-46*

'Sporting News' Hails Robinson, Campanella

Jackie Robinson and Roy Campanella are the two big stories in the latest issue of "Sporting News," the weekly baseball publication which is recognized as the bible for diamond doings.

Robinson was personally interviewed by J. Taylor Spink, editor of **Sporting News**, and the story begins in the first column on Page One and is continued on practically all of Page Four—complete with a picture of Jackie crossing the plate after his home run on that memorable Opening Day in April. The caption above that photo says: "A Star Since Opening Day."

In the minor league section of the same issue of **Sporting News** there is a big splash story on Roy Campanella and Donald Newcombe. Two big pictures of Campy and Newcombe are featured across the page and the caption reads: "Only Negro Battery in O. B. Stars for Nashau." The story below the picture spread is devoted to Campanella and the headline is: "Nashua Negro New England's No. Pad Ace."

The opening paragraph to the story on Campy starts: "Roy Campanella, Nashau's Negro catcher, won a New England League all-star berth unanimously, despite the fact that every team in the league was well fortified. He hit .301 and is a good workman behind the bat." The rest of the story goes on to review some of Campanella's achievements as a year-round ball-player in South America, Puerto Rico and Mexico. This winter, incidentally, Campy will play with the San Juan, Puerto Rico ballclub and ..ch the slants of the Chica Cub's ..er, Hiram Bithorn.

..r to his winter play with San Juan, **Sporting News** revealed, Campy and Robinson will forego their planned barnstorming with Bob Feller's All-Stars to instead play a series of games against National Leaguers starting in October at Ebbets Field and moving on to Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and St. Louis. *Tues 9-10-46*

All this, of course, will keep Campy in top shape for the '47 season, his second year in organized baseball. On the basis of his record at Nashau, there's a strong feeling that Campanella and his booming bat are scheduled for a promotion to the Montreal Royals next season.

The story on Jackie Robinson is in the form of a long interview, with Jackie telling the Sporting News' editor of his experiences in his historic season with the Royals. The interview also includes a quote from Bruno Betzel, manager of the Jersey City Giants, who in addition to calling Robinson a greater bunter than Ty Cobb, added: "I'd like to have nine Robinsons."

Yes, says **Sporting News**, "Jackie has done okay in his boot training And he looks forward to more technical tests at Brooklyn, confident he will be graded fairly by the officers of the playing field and by the fans, too."

10 Sepia Stars in Mexican Classic

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

MEXICO CITY — Ten former Negro National and American League aces were the backbone of the 1946 Mexican League All-Star game, won by the South over the North, here, Tuesday, 11-8.

Playing with the victorious outfit were Shortstop Ray Dandridge, formerly of the Newark Eagles; Outfielder Bill Wright, ex-Baltimore Elite Giant; Pitchers Theolic Smith, Cleveland Buckeyes, and Booker McDaniels, Kansas City Monarchs. *Sat. 7-20-46*

Chosen to represent the North were Avelino Canizares, last year's shortstop sensation with the world champion Cleveland Buckeyes; Hector Rodriguez, ex-New York Cuban third baseman; Lloyd (Ducky) Davenport, 1945 Cleveland Buckeye outfielder; Utility men Martin Dihigo and Claro Duany, former N.Y. Cubans, and Art Pennington, ex-Chicago American Giant first sacker.

The Tuesday game here has its counterparts in the major league all-star contest also played Tuesday, at Boston, and the East-West game set for next month.

Teams from which the North aggregation drew its all stars were Torreon, Tampico, Monterrey and Nueva Lardeo. The South team was composed of outstanding players from Vera Cruz, Mexico City, Puebla and San Luis Potosi.

Former major leaguers who also showed in the game were Danny Gardella, Sal Maglie, George Hausmann, Harry Feldman, ex-New York Giants; Mickey Owens, Roland Gladu, Luis Olmo, former Dodgers; Lou Klein, ex Chicub; Red Hayworth, Tigers; Roberto Ortiz, Rene Monteagudo, Senators; Max Lanier, Jimmy Steiner, Cardinal, and Roberto Estalella, Athletics.

Weather Hot; Food Bad; Pay Less Than Whites in Mexico, Player Tells AFRO

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 7-13-46

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

MONTERREY, N.L., Mexico—Although numerous problems have begun to present themselves with the influx of white major leaguers from the United States, Mexican baseball still offers a better all-round proposition than do the Negro National and American Leagues, declares Art Pennington, former star first baseman of the Chicago American Giants. Pennington, one of the leading batters of the Negro American League and a member of the victorious Westerners in last year's East-West game, is a regular with the second place Monterrey club and one of five ex-NAL luminaries in the local lineup.

Art Pennington

The others are Johnny (Schoolboy) Taylor, former Kansas City Monarch pitcher; Claro Duany, outfielder; Juan Blanco and Ramon Heredia, infielders, ex-New York Cubans.

Immaterial to Them

"We don't care anything about playing with these fellows," Pennington told the AFRO Tuesday, "it's simply that there's no comparison in the money we get here and what they pay at home.

"I, for one, wouldn't be here 15 minutes," he went on, "if Doc Martin (J. B. Martin, owner of Chicago American Giants) would pay me near what I know I'm worth."

Pennington admitted that several of the players have expressed dissatisfaction at being paid less than the white major leaguers, recently lured to Mexico by the lush offers of Senor Jorge Pasquel, Mexican League president.

Pay Cut in Half

"Of course," he said, "we gripe at the thought of getting just about half of what they pay these other fellows, but even our half-salaries in this league are twice what we were drawing in the States.

"Take for instance, my own case," Pennington continued. "Doc paid me $400 a month last year and when he learned I was thinking about coming down here, he upped it to $450 per month. Out of that I pay my own expenses and must take care of a wife and two children.

"Down here with Monterrey, I'm drawing $900 a month and the team bears all my expenses, including apartment rent, meals, etc., plus a ticket home at the close of the season.

Weather Hot, Food Bad

"It's awfully hot here and the food is terrible. On top of that it gets very lonesome having nobody around who you can talk to unless you can make yourself understood with your smattering of pig-Spanish.

"But at that it beats working in the States where the owners are making money and can well afford to pay more, but won't. Would you keep on year in and year out working for a paper that insisted on paying less than half of what another paper was willing to give you — with expenses thrown in?

"I guess Booker McDaniels (ace of the 1945 Monarchs) is getting the top salary among us here with his $9,000 for the esason. And we know some of those fellows from the minor leagues are better paid — some of them get $17,000 — than we are, but it's still a better deal than we could expect back home.

Jim Crow Showing Head

"Doc Martin has told me he would 'take care' of me if I came back to Chicago, but he doesn't say what that means. If he'd give me $650 and expenses, I'd take a train out of here tomorrow."

Pennington says he has seen evidence of the race issue cropping up in other cities in the league.

One case, he relates, deals with Taylor, his teammate.

Johnny is a veteran righthander and was one of the stars of Satchel Paige's famed Dominican All-Stars. He had played for three years with the Vera Cruz Blues, pet team of Pasquel.

But when Mickey Owen, former Dodger catcher, took over the managerial role with that club, a purge was effected which ridded the roster of all colored stars. Thus room was made for Luis Olmo, Dodgers; Danny Gardella, Sal Maglie, ex-New York Giants, and others. Taylor was released and immediately joined the local outfit.

Johnny Wright, Roy Partlow Not Least Discouraged by Shipment to "C" Loop

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 7-27-46

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

TROIS RIVIERES, Canada — Ordinarily, an experienced baseball player who had been shipped to the bush leagues just when his thousands of friends were expecting him to star in the majors, would be feeling mighty low in spirits.

But not so Johnny Wright; nor, for that matter, Roy Partlow.

Both Wright and Partlow were recently sent here to play with the Three Rivers club of the Canadian-American Baseball League, a Class "C" outfit. They were shipped here by the Montreal Royals, whose manager, Clay Hopper, felt they were not quite ready for the International League's Triple-A baseball.

Hopper and President Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers, whom both Montreal and Three Rivers serve as farm clubs, agreed that Wright, the former Homestead Gray righthander, and Partlow, the ex-Philadelphia Star southpaw, needed seasoning.

Suffered From "Nerves"

"Not seasoning from the standpoint of baseball experience," Rickey told the AFRO, but a sort of orientation which will help them get rid of the pronounced complex from which both appear to be suffering."

It seems Johnny and Roy, playing in an all-white environment that was entirely new to them, could not do themselves justice and, as a consequence, were suffering from nerves. This could be true, though neither will admit it outright.

Here, Wright has found his control and is pitching improved ball, despite the fact that he has a record of only five wins against seven losses.

White teammates agree that Johnny should have fared better than he has, there being a general admission that he has had wobbly support in all of his starts and that on occasions when he held opposing teams to a minimum of runs "we failed to get any for him."

Second Division Club

Three Rivers is in the second division of an eight-club circuit and the arrival of Partlow here last Wednesday was hailed as good news by followers of the team.

This city is eighteenth among Canadian cities and, although it has a population of only 42,007, leads the loop in attendance figures. It is beautifully situated on the banks of the St. Lawrence River, 79 miles north of Montreal.

Both Wright and Partlow are satisfied that they "will come back." The latter is on a 24-hour recall from Montreal and the former was described by Rickey as having "great promise."

Johnny told the AFRO last week, "I was told I was being sent here so that I could get more work, which is something I have to have if I'm going to get anywhere. I'm getting it now and I don't have the slightest doubt that I'll be back up there before long."

No Color Line--Tigers

Thurs. 10-31-46

Detroit Baseball Company
Oct. 28, 1946

Bill Mardo and Lester Rodney,
Sports Editors, Daily Worker
35 E. 12 St.,
New York City

Gentlemen:

In reply to your communication addressed to Mr. Briggs, it is only fair to say that the Detroit Club, like all other Major League Clubs, has no rules or regulations which prohibt including of Negro players on the Detroit Club.

The Detroit Club will continue its policy of attempting to put the best qualified players available on the field as player representatives of the City of Detroit.

Discrimination as to race, color or creed has never been a part of the prevailing policy.

Yours truly,
GEORGE M. TRAUTMAN
Executive Vice-President

By Bill Mardo

The Detroit Tigers Baseball Club yesterday denied any policy of discrimination in answer to the Daily Worker questionnaire on jimcrow in baseball sent to all major league magnates except Brooklyn's Branch Rickey. Two days ago Larry MacPhail evasively answered for the Yankee organization.

Questions asked of the 15 club owners were: Would they recommend the signing of qualified Negro players to their teams? Were they presently scouting Negro talent as they do all other prospects? And did they agree there was no room for discrimination in the national pastime of our country?

Exclusive

The reply of George M. Trautman, speaking for Detroit club owner Walter O. Briggs, is most interesting. "Discrimination as to race, color or creed has never been a part of the prevailing policy," said Trautman. This is the first such statement by any big league spokesman since Branch Rickey signed Jackie Robinson and four other Negro players to his farm teams.

Detroit's democratic-loving baseball fans now have a commitment of policy from officials of the team they support. They should hold the Detroit management to every word of that non-jimcrow statement.

Mr. Trautman affirmed his team will field "the best qualified players available . . . as player representatives of the City of Detroit." Baseball fans there should remind Mr. Trautman that the City of Detroit includes over 160,000 Negroes. Can the Tigers truly represent the City of Detroit without scouting and signing qualified Negro stars?

Paige's Stars Again Beat Major Leaguers

The Afro-American Sat. 10-19-46
Baltimore, Md.

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Satchel Paige and his crack all-star nine took the measure of the band of major leaguers headed by Bob Feller, for the third successive time here last week as 9,044 chilled fans looked on. The score was 4-3.

Paige opposed Feller on the mound for three innings and, as on the previous Sunday afternoon in Yankee Stadium, the Kansas City Monarch flinger gained the upper hand on the Cleveland Indian ace.

Feller, fresh from setting a new all-time strikeout record in major league baseball, found the Negro National and American League batters assembled by Satchel, held no fear of his vaunted fast ball.

Pounce on Leonard

The real damage to the big leaguers was done while Dutch Leonard, Washington Senators' star knuckle-baller, was on the slab. Leonard was nicked for four hits in the seventh, good enough to tie the score at 2-2, before he was relieved by Bob Lemon of the Cleveland Indians.

Lemon was charged with the defeat as the Paigemen collected another brace of tallies in their ninth. Mickey Vernon, also of the Washington Senators and American League batting champion, led the losers at bat with two hits.

While they were firing away at each other, Paige allowed Feller's teammates but one walk and fanned three.

On last Sunday afternoon, the Paigemen defeated Feller's outfit, 4-0, in Yankee Stadium, after which they dropped a 7-4 decision at night in Baltimore.

THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

Defender

UP AGAINST IT

The baseball Magnate's heart is sore.
Consider his position
'Tis hard to carry on a war
When short of ammunition.

Chicago, Ill.

The death of Walter Ball, member of the Leland Giants, Chicago Giants and Brooklyn Royals, caused us to remember some of the oldtime baseball players of another era.

Rube Foster

We remembered that no-hit, no-run game the late Andrew "Rube Foster" pitched against the South Chicago team in the city league at old Auburn park. The old score book shows how the Leland Giants beat Jake Stahl's crew.

Sat. 12-28-46

The lone run of that 1 to 0 game came in the first half of the sixth. Bobby Winston was safe when Callahan (then late of the White Sox) dropped Staton's peg at first. Winston then stole second. Harris beat out a bunt. Hillebrand, ex-major leaguer, tried to pick Harris off first and again Callahan dropped the throw. When he came to life Winston was half way home. He scored the winning run.

You can figure out the year since the White Sox moved into its 35th and Shields ave. quarters in 1910 when the American Giants were formed.

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SPEAKING OF RUBE Ball, not any other Negro pitcher including the great Satchel Paige was his equal. The only trouble with Rube was that he lived 30 years too soon. There were not high powered publicity men in his day. Yet he attracted the attention of the sport writers as well as the fans.

Recall one day when we were chatting on the bench before a game. He was talking about his days with the old Philadelphia Giants.

"I don't rely on any kind of ball," Foster went on to tell us, "I don't use any kind of system. I just kind of size up the batter and give him what I think he can't hit. Sometimes it's a curve and sometimes it is a straight ball and I can most always tell, sort of by instinct, what's coming off behind me.

"In 1905, I won 51 out of 55 games I pitched for the season. We played the New York Giants, the Philadelphia Nationals, Brooklyn Nationals and the Philadelphia Athletics, teams of the New England League and the Tri-State League and cleaned them all up.

"It was when I beat the Philadelphia Athletics with the great Rube Waddell pitching that they gave me the name of 'the colored Waddell.'"

That conversation took place in 1908, Rube's second year here with the Leland Giants and the year he married. His widow, Mrs. Sarah Foster lives at 4131 Michigan ave. Rube's son, Earl, attended Wilberforce University, served in the army in World War II and is now in the livery business.

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LAST SEEN OF TWO other great pitchers, of Rube's time, was when we attended the Louis vs Conn second fight in New York City. Smoky Joe Williams of the Homestead Grays and Dick Redding of the New York Bacharachs, owned by the late John Connors, and later of the American Giants under Foster, were serving as bartenders in saloons (you might, prefer to call them taverns but New Yorkers call them tap rooms) on Fifth ave. up in Harlem.

Shades of the past: Walter Ball's 3 to 2 win over the Logan Squares . . . Ball's triumph over Jake Stahl's club . . . Ball's 53 minute game in New Jersey . . . Remember Bobby Winston, Pete Hill (now in Buffalo), the late Andrew Payne whose widow lives at 5131 Wabash ave., Chicago; Talbert, the late Jess Wright (son of the late Mother Seams of tennis fame), James Booker, Bill Gatewood and Pat Dougherty, all of the Leland Giants.

Some of the stars of the first years of Foster's American Giants were Jess Barber, Pete Hill, Duncan, Taylor, Monroe (said to be Foster's best second baseman with a slight edge over Binga DeMoss who came along a few years later), Pierce, Gatewood, Lindsay, Payne, Francis, Winston, Petway and Wickware.

We also remembered the year Foster broke his leg in the first inning of the game at Gunther park when the American Giants defeated the Cuban Giants, 13 to 6.

New Pirate Owner Says He Tells Scouts No Color Bar in Signing Players

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Sat. 11-9-46

Frank E. McKinney, new president of the Pittsburgh Pirates of the National League, yesterday told the Daily Worker that the Pirates would sign any qualified players regardless of color and that the scouts are so instructed in looking for talent. The letter follows:

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Pittsburgh Athetic Co., Inc.
November 6, 1946.

Daily Worker
35 East Twelfth Street
New York, New York,
Gentlemen:

In answer to your letter of October 18th, I am happy to respond to the three questions as follows:

1. Any ball player of outstanding qualifications who is a free agent and who has not as yet reached the age of 21, regardless of age, creed, or color, would be signed by the Pittsburgh organization.

2. Our scouts are directed and instructed to scout talent regardless of race, creed, or color. However, the one restriction is that no player be signed after he has reached the age of 21.

In answer to your queston No. 3, I will only say that if we choose to continue to maintain this great country as a free democracy there is no room for discrimination of race, creed, or color.

Very truly yours,
FRANK E. McKINNEY

Mr. McKinney's letter was in response to a Daily Worker query sent to all big league magnates with the exception of Branch Rickey, who has already signed five Negro players with the Brooklyn organization. The substance of the three questions put to the 15 magnates was:

•

1. Would your club sign qualified Negro players. 2. Is your club presently scouting Negro players the same as it scouts other players. 3. Don't you agree there is no room for discrimination in America's National Pastime

Pittsburgh is the third team to answer. The New York Yankees and Detroit Tigers having previously replied. Mr. McKinney's answer is the most clear cut to date, being the only one to state that scouting for players is on a non-discriminatory basis. However, it does not state that Pirate scouts are specifically scouting Negro players for 1947.

It's 'No' from MacPhail

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

63a

New York Yankee owner Larry MacPhail yesterday answered the Daily Worker questionnaire on baseball Jimcrow sent to all major league owners except Branch Rickey. MacPhail's letter to this page declared:

"Gentlemen:

"This acknowledges your letter of Oct. 18. My position on the question of the Negro leagues and Negro players was made clear and published a year or so ago. For your information I am enclosing a copy of the article which I think answers all of the questions which you ask in your letter."

Tue. 10-29-46

MacPhail "answers" which he refers to are enclosed in his speech on Postwar Sports Problems delivered Aug. 30, 1945, before the N. Y. Rotary Club luncheon. A speech noted for its evasive double-talk and do-nothing-now theme. After noting that "the history of American sports has been enriched by the performance of great Negro athletes," the Yankee magnate quickly reversed his field and said: "Whether the Negro leagues and their players should be admitted to organized baseball at this time is another matter. Certain groups, composed in the main of political and social-minded drum-beaters, are conducting pressure campaigns, and picketing, in an attempt to force many clubs to sign Negro players now employed by the Negro league clubs. Members of these groups are not primarily interested in professional baseball. . . . They single out organized baseball for attack because it offers a good publicity medium."

To answer that briefly: Who petitioned the late Judge Landis to denounce the unwritten Jimcrow ban? Was it some publicity minded organizations—or was it over a million American baseball fans from the shops and factories and unions and fraternal clubs of this country? Were they "uninterested drum-beaters" or were they the guys and gals who pay their way into the ball parks and

MacPhail's politico-sounding report hit only one true chord, and that came when he canned the double-talk and frankly admitted that "many major and minor league clubs derive substantial revenue" from renting their ball parks to the Negro teams. "Club owners in the major leagues are reluctant to give up revenues amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars every year. They naturally want the Negro leagues to continue," MacPhail candidly observed.

So we see the question of big business interests isn't entirely disconnected from the continuance of Jimcrow policy on 15 major league clubs. But it's too bad the major league owners can't see any further than a dollar bill already in their hands. Because the truth is, signing of Negro stars won't mean as MacPhail says that "the Negro leagues will eventually fold up." Far to the contrary, if young Negro hopefuls knew that the Jimcrow barriers were really down and they had a chance to crack the big leagues, then many more of them would flock to the Negro leagues and enrich it with fresher talent. So we see MacPhail's concern about the Negro leagues folding up is so much hot-air.

MacPhail's report also gave lip-service to some vague plan, "if and when the Negro leagues approve" wherein Negro players "who first establish ability, character and aptitude in their own league could advance to the majors of big minors of organized baseball." This talk of "character" is quite amusing, coming as it does from the man who was found guilty and fined $50 for pushing telephone operator Anna Towner and slapping her manager during an altercation in Bel Air, Md., last October.

The Yankee owner concluded his speech thusly: "I believe that the Negro is entitled to a fairer deal in base ball." . . . BUT, continued MacPhail . . . "The Yankees have no present intention of signing Negro players who are under contract or reservation to Negro clubs."

America's democratic sports fans will rate MacPhail's answer unsatisfactory.

fill the coffers of men like MacPhail? Who has a greater right to pressure for an elementary democratic change in baseball, if not the loyal fans who support the teams year in and year out?

MacPhail further told the Rotary Club: Signing a few Negro players for the major leagues would be a gesture—but it would contribute little or nothing toward a solution of the real problem."

LARRY MacPHAIL

To that we say: Let the other 15 big league owners make "gestures" similar to those iniated last year by Branch Rickey who signed five Negro players to his Dodger organization. Was the "gesture" of Jackie Robinson winning the International League batting crown something that contributed "little or nothing" to ending Jimcrow in organized baseball? Was the sight of thousands of fans storming the Montreal ballfield at the end of the Little World Series shouting "We want Robinson" and then carrying him off the field on their shoulders—don't you think that hastened the death of Jimcrow in baseball, Mr. MacPhail? And the warm, spirited fan support for Roy Campanella and Donald Newcombe, Roy Partlow and Johnny Wright—was that merely the result of a "gesture" which contributed little or nothing to banish the scourge of discrimination from our great pastime?

Yes, Mr. MacPhail, let you and your colleagues make similar gestures of signing Negro players and the millions of democratic loving baseball fans will be well satisfied.

General

In this corner

Some Comment on Wright, Bevens, Durocher

By Bill Mardo

Some scribe whose judgment we value highly told us that Johny Wright, the second of five Negroes signed in organized baseball, hadn't been given enough work on the mound to have justified the Montreal Royals shipping him to the Three-Rivers club of the Canadian-American League.

It's difficult for us to have an accurate opinion on this situation, not having seen Wright throw since we left Florida. All we know is the wiry right-hander had been unimpressive in his initial two relief roles, but in his last stint had been called on for another fireman appearance and held the Baltimore Orioles hitless during the final two and one-third innings he worked.

While it does seem strange that Montreal should let Wright go to a lesser loop just when he seemed to find himself, nonetheless it's equally difficult to imagine Royal pilot Clay Hopper having been at all prejudiced about Wright. The Montreal mentor has been eminently fair with Jackie Robinson and indeed is Robbie's biggest booster.

Maybe Hopper was a bit premature in his judgment of Johnny Wright, but if Wright does have the stuff he'll be back with Montreal. One must admit that on the basis of his record alone in Negro baseball and the games he played against major league clubs while at Floyd Bennett, the soft-spoken Wright figured to make the grade.

Donald Newcombe and Roy Campanella, the two Negroes signed to Branch Rickey's Nashua farmclub in the New England League, continue to spark that team. Newcombe, the strong right-hander rookie formerly with the Newark Eagles, has copped his first two starts, and Campanella's potent poking has been a key factor in keeping Nashua within running distance of the New England loop-leaders.

Some Questions And Answers re Jorge Pasquel

By Michael Singer
Daily Worker Staff Correspondent

MEXICO CITY, May 15.—As we pack up to go home after two weeks in Mexico City, much of the early perspectives we had on Jorge Pasquel, overlord of Mexican baseball, are subject to some reconsideration.

Pasquel reflects the good and bad of Mexican baseball, and it's in this light that we'd like to add here some comments which we failed to consider when we first interviewed the Number One man of Mexican baseball.

Pasquel undoubtedly is doing a good job in making baseball a going concern in Mexico; he is paying equitable and even magnificent salaries to former underpaid big league players; he is waging a strong fight against what he calls the "organized monopoly" of American baseball; and he is laying low any sign of jimcrow in the league there.

For all these things—and, incidentally, for the indirect aid he is offering to American players in their salary negotiations—the Pasquel family deserves the support of American fans and players.

But the Pasquels are a monopoly in themselves. They control Mexican baseball from the first to the very last stage; from the contracts they sign to the cushions you hire at the park; from the bats the players use to the apartments they live in.

The flaw in the Mexican baseball picture, however, remains the absolute domination of Mexican baseball by the Pasquel family. As a matter of fact, it is really Jorge Pasquel. The rest of the four Pasquel brothers are his stooges and, though we have no proof, the club owners of the Mexican league are probably in no position to advance any suggestion or make any commitment without prior approval from Pasquel.

Jorge Pasquel personally is ruthless, single-minded and inclined toward despotism. He sees the fight he is putting up for Mexican baseball as a matter of personal pride, a pride which has been stung by the statements and rebuffs from the states.

Mexican baseball has a future—even a great future. It can be crippled, however, by the whims and the changing temperaments of a single individual like Jorge Pasquel. He is now courting the U. S. players and offering them opportunities hitherto unheard of. Will he continue to play the gracious, beneficent magnate when his league is firmly established?

One man cannot be depended on to sustain the future of Mexican, Negro, Cuban and American players, no matter how co-operative and energetic he is. And in Jorge Pasquel, Mexican baseball is running the danger of a one-man show, take it or leave it.

On the record the Pasquels support Miguel Aleman, progressive candidate for Mexico President. But this record is subject to scrutiny. It is known that many wealthy Mexicans would like to see Aleman win because of their personal friendship to him and the possibility of controlling his program. Pasquel would seem to fall in that category. His angling for control of a large Mexico City newspaper, mentioned in some quarters as "Noviedad"—one of the most reactionary papers in the country—is another disquieting thought.

He has reported that his salaries to unknown Mexican, Cuban and Negro players in his league average $100 a week—a truly large sum by any standard of American contracts. We were unable to prove or disprove that with any of the local players. The actual figure paid to players other than American is lower, though by how much it is impossible to determine.

With all respect to Pasquel's fight for the right to organize Mexican baseball and his democratic handling of the players as of this moment, the fact remains that he is absolute dictator of baseball here.

And dictators—in baseball as well as in politics—are dangerous.

LATEST On Negro Stars

ROBINSON—Games, 102; at bat, 359; hits, 134; runs, 100; stolen bases, 33; average .371. **Jackie is leading the International League. In the field the great second baseman didn't make an error between May 7 and July 23, and July 23 and Aug. 11. He is handling more chances than the shortstop and is in the middle of a record number of double plays being hung up by league leading Montreal.**

NEWCOMBE—Won 10, lost **3 for** Nashau of the New England League, struck out 82.

CAMPANELLA—Games, 93; at bat, 328; hits, 99; runs batted in, 76; home runs, 12; average, .302.

WRIGHT—Won 11, lost 7 at Three Rivers, Canadian-American League.

PARTLOW—Won 6, lost none for same team.

Amateur Baseball Ass'n bars team with Negro player

NEW YORK — Because Zack Redden, firstbaseman, clean-up hitter, and general mainstay of Battle Creek, Michigan's Clark Equipment team, is a Negro, the Clark nine wasn't on hand for a chance at the National Amateur Baseball Ass'n's championships at Youngstown, O., last Saturday.

NABA secretary wrote apologetically to Clark Equipment: "According to our rules, no team that has a Negro on it, or any Negro team will be permitted to participate in the tournament. The question of Negro participation will, however, be brought up at our winter meeting at Birmingham, Ala. At the present time we could not (if we wanted too) permit a Negro to participate."

EAGLES WIN NEGRO TITLE

Newark Nine Trips Kansas City Monarchs on 2-Run 6th, 3-2

NEWARK, N. J., Sept. 29 (AP)—The Newark Eagles captured the Negro world baseball championship today with a two-run rally in the sixth inning that yielded them a 3—2 victory over the Kansas City Monarchs before a crowd of 7,200 in Ruppert Stadium.

The Eagles were limited to three hits by Ford Smith, but one of them—a double by John Davis—paid well. Larry Dobe and Monte Irvin, who got on via walks, crossed the plate.

Newark's first run came when Pat Patterson reached first on an infield error and scored on a hit by Irvin. Kansas City broke into the scoring on a home run by John O'Neil in the top of the sixth. Joe Green reached first on a single in the seventh and scored on another safety by Herb Souell.

Paige Hurls First Game Of Season — And Wins

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Satchell Paige made his first start of the 1946 season pitching the first three innings against the House of David Baseball team, in a game which the Kansas City Monarchs won by a 10-1 score, here Sunday.

Satchell struck out four, allowed one hit, a single in the third. He was relieved at the beginning of the fourth by a recruit, Claude Watson, trying for a berth on the Monarchs' overcrowded hurling staff who held the bearded players away from the plate until the ninth inning when they bunched four hits for their lone run of the game.

The Monarchs, winners of nine straight league games, take to the road this week meeting the Indianapolis Clowns, Memphis Red Sox and Cleveland Buckeyes in league games before returning to their home grounds.

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Davids	000 000 001—	1	7	3
Monarchs	251 010 10x—	10	14	1

Batteries: Griffin, Wykoff and Hummell; Paige, Watson and Taborn.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RES...

'Something New' Added to Baseball

By C. E. Dexter

One-fourth of the current baseball season will have been completed next week—and honest, fellas, it's been a lulu. Crowds are jamming their way into ballparks, the haphazard Dodgers have been riding high. Bobby Feller has pitched a no-hitter, and Boston's Red Sox are emerging as the best team since the Cards of 1942.

But when historians record the rest of this postwar spring, they will remember most vividly certain off-the-field events which indicate that this is a new day, indeed, in the great baseball pastime.

For example, Negroes are now playing in organized ball for the first time. Despite prediction of earth-shaking repercussions, nothing untoward has happened . . . except that they play as well as whites—and that fans in Canadian and American cities greet them with the same cheers with which they hail other ballplayers.

A trade union is organizing ballplayers, and has, it is said, signed a majority of the Pittsburgh Pirates, as well as numerous others on major league teams. Again the prophets of doom have been revealed as unreliable oracles. High-salaried stars have as many grievances as low-salary rookies, notably the unilateral contract with the 15-day release clause and reserve list device, whereby a club retains them under contract during the off-season. And all ballplayers are up in arms against the two-month exhibition tour shakedown during spring training, when they receive no pay for games to which an admission is charged.

Then there's the Mexico major league competition—which has highlighted something everybody on the inside has known for years, that baseball is a monopoly, with agreements between operators which could easily be attacked in law.

Finally, there is a new streamlined promotional campaign, originated by Larry MacPhail at the Yankee Stadium.

Not that Larry has carried his idea to its logical conclusion. His private club in the Stadium is only for those who can pay for a season box.

MacPhail has also introduced new publicity methods. He has organized a radio unit, sending his own broadcasters around the circuit to give play-by-play descriptions of games.

None of these tricks has sufficed to drive the Yankees into the American League lead; they have failed to hit as expected, some of the old stars have failed to regain their prewar form—but their games have been well played.

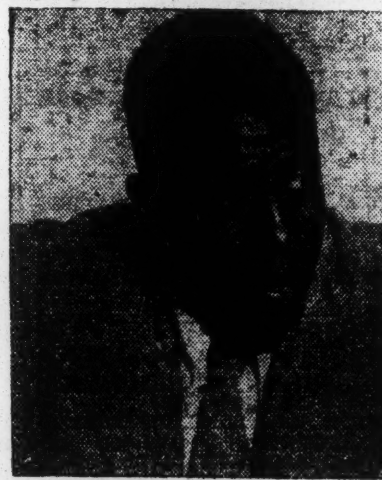
In this corner

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y.
Thurs. 7-25-46

Despite Jackie's Success, Moguls Want Jimcrow

By Bill Mardo

Of the five Negroes now in organized baseball with the Dodger organization, three are scoring signal successes and loom as definite major league material. Jackie Robinson is the rave of the International League. His speedy, sure-fingered work at second base has accounted for a record amount of double-plays with teammate Al Campanis. Robbie's plate potency is illustrated with the near near .350 batting average he's been sporting all season, and as of last week the Montreal Royals' star second baseman had scored 57 runs and knocked in another 32 tallies. He had two home runs and 26 stolen bases to his credit. The Royals are 12½ games in front, have broken last year's attendance figures—and it's no secret that the man generally responsible for this situation is Jackie Robinson who, in his own right, is as popular with the Canadian home-town fans as was Babe Ruth with the folks who used to crowd the Yankee Stadium in the Bambino's heyday. Dispatches from Montreal reveal that Jackie is surrounded by admiring fans wherever he goes, whether it be at the ball park, theatre or restaurant. He's in great demand as a speaker at youth rallies and interracial goodwill affairs. As a ball player and citizen, Jackie Robinson has made good with a bang.


JACKIE ROBINSON

And over at Nashua in the New England League, battery mates Donald Newcombe and Roy Campanella have been doing wonderfully well and are rated key factors in having pushed their club into third place. The tall, strong Newcombe has won six games and lost three with his blazing fast ball and well-controlled curve. This 22-year-old kid who only had one year of baseball with the Neawark Eagles to his credit, is rated an excellent prospect.

And behind the plate for Newcombe and all the other Nashua hurlers is Roy Campanella, the former standout backstop for the Baltimore Elite Giants. Like Jackie Robinson, the 27-year-old Campanella is idolized by New England fans who, we are told, are going gaga over Campy's hustling aggressiveness which has infected the rest of the team, his whip-like arm which keeps runners glued to the bases, and his adeptness at handling the mound crew. Campanella's batting average is about .265, way below the .360 average he used to regularly rack up with the Baltimore Elite Giants. But the Nashua rooters who've seen Campy knock in 37 runs, blast out seven circuit clouts and invariably come through in the clutch with men on base—know that it's a mighty big and dangerous bat that Roy owns and confidently expect him to tear out in a rash of hits one of these days which will boost him back into the .300 class where he belongs.

Considering the sad state of Leo Durocher's catching crew, Roy Campanella must stand a good chance of crashing the parent team in '47. From where we sit, Campy has more experience and talent than rookies Bruce Edward or Ferrell Anderson, who now share the catching chores in Ebbets Field. Thurs 7-25-46

The other two Negro twirlers signed by Rickey—Johnny Wright and Roy Partlow—have been shipped from Montreal to the Three Rivers club of the Canadian-American League for further seasoning.

* * *

So with this bit of reviewing out of the way, we come to the next question. Why haven't the other big league moguls taken a page from Branch Rickey's book and signed up Negro talent? This is a particularly pertinent question to ask of the National League club owners, whose teams are in desperate straits this season. The answer isn't too difficult to dope out. They're not at all concerned with the success scored by Robinson, Newcombe and Campanella. Nobody had to "prove" to them that Negroes are capable of playing in organized baseball—or that the vast majority of democratic baseball fans welcome the sight of Negroes in baseball. The moguls knew that long before Rickey broke the ice. But these deeply ingrained reactionaries are out to sabotage the step taken by Rickey and still hope to keep organized baseball a Jimcrow setup. Which is the way of reactionaries in all fields of business, isn't it?

But the baseball magnates haven't reckoned with one important factor, namely, that the paths being blazed by Robinson, Newcombe, Campanella, Partlow and Wright are solidifying ever more the strong audience sentiment in favor of Negroes in baseball. If that sentiment, as it was in past years, is organized into a tremendous surge of protest against the continuance of Jimcrow baseball on all the other big league organizations outside of the Dodgers—then the walls must and will come tumbling down.

The men like Larry MacPhail and Horace Stoneham, of the Yankees and Giants respectively, may feel that they can continue to defy the Ives-Quinn law which makes industry discrimination unlawful in New York state.

But they're mistaken, are Messrs. MacPhail and Stoneham. Yes it's true that the CIO unions which have always been the backbone of the protest campaigns against baseball Jimcrow, have been embroiled in wage and other struggles all year long. And it's true that the mass organizations which have likewise figured importantly in the Jimcrow campaign, are now fighting an all-consuming battle to restore OPA and prevent chaos from sweeping the country. But so is it true that these organizations and unions have always recognized that a fight against Jimcrow is part and parcel of all the other struggles for democracy and a decent life. And that's why we're confident that the end-Jimcrow in baseball campaign must and will be re-initiated now—and with proper organization and militancy—coupled with the true sentiments of the millions of fans—will result in newer victories over the reactionaries and white supremacists in the baseball hierarchy.

PAIGE HERE THURS. NITE

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Tues 7-30-46

Satchel Paige. There's still plenty of magic in that name—just as there's still plenty of magic left in the magnificent pitching arm of the 40-year-old Negro immortal. The great Satchel will lead his Kansas City Monarchs against the Black Yankees at Yankee Stadium this Thursday night, in the first game that Negro teams have ever played under the Stadium arc-lights.

A banner crowd is expected to be found on hand for Thursday night's occasion, which is only natural, for whenever old Satch trods onto the mound there's always a big attendance. To this day, Paige still remains one of the top pitchers in baseball, as his fine work here several weeks ago testified.

So get out to the Stadium early Thursday night—for a gander at the man who is generally considered one of the greatest pitchers who ever lived.

Colored Ballplayers

PM New York, N.Y.

To the Editor:

I was one of the relatively few "whites" who attended both of the baseball games between the Bob Feller and Satchel Paige All-Stars, held at the Yankee Stadium, the past week.

After seeing with what ease the colored team held their own with some of the best players the major leagues had to offer, I can readily understand why the big league players fear the prospect of having colored players enter the major leagues. Wed. 10-9-46

I venture to predict that if given a fair and equal chance, the big leagues would have, at the very least, a strong minority of colored ball players on every team.

HARRY K[illegible]
New York

Dodger Prexy Sends Pair to Nashua for Tryouts

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Baltimore Catcher and Don Newcombe, Newark Hurler, Latest to Break In

Sat 4-13-46

NASHUA, N.H.—Roy Campanella, 25-year-old catcher of the Baltimore Elite Giants, was signed to a contract to play with the Nashua Club of the New England League here on Thursday.

Campanella and Donald (Don) Newcombe, 21-year-old pitcher of the Newark Eagles last year, thus follow Jackie Robinson and John Wright into the farm system of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Robinson and Wright are in training with the Montreal Royals of the International League. *Sat 4-13-46*

Roy Campanella Don Newcombe

Rumors earlier in the week were to the effect Campanella and Newcombe were destined to assignments to the Danville (Ill.) Club of The Three Eye League (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa). These rumors were put to rest, however, with announcement here Thursday that the colored pair would come to the local club for the 1946 campaign.

Bob Finch, assistant to Dodger President Branch Rickey, told the AFRO this morning (Friday) that both Campanella and Newcombe have accepted terms offered them by Nashua officials.

Although he would not disclose the salary to be paid either player, Finch said the New England League, which is a Class B loop, pays an average $200-monthly wage.

The New England is an eight-team organization. Other cities in the league are Portland, Maine, Manchester, N.H., Lawrence, Lynn and Fall River, Mass., and Pawtucket and Providence, R.I.

Campanella, regarded the top catcher in the Negro National League last year, batted .365 for 40 games while playing at Baltimore. He toured South America this winter with an all-star team which included Jackie Robinson and was managed by Felton Snow, his old pilot with the Elites.

Both Men at Homes

The catcher is resting at his home, 1538 Kerbaugh St., Philadelphia, but was unavailable for comment Friday morning.

Newcombe, a righthander with an acceptable fast ball and deceptive change-of-pace, was Newark's most dependable flinger last season. He won 11 games and lost four, six of his victories coming in a row. *Sat 4-13-46*

Like Campanella, the new Dodger recruit is at home awaiting the call to report. He lives in Elizabeth, N.J., at 944 E. Grand St.

Walt Osborn, who last year piloted Trenton, was orginally slated to come here to manage this season, but Branch Rickey Jr., head of the Dodger farm chain, announced Thursday that the deal had fallen through. At present, Nashua is without a manager.

—SAM LACY.

NASHUA ACQUIRES 2 NEGRO PLAYERS

N.H. *4-5-46*

Dodgers Send Campanella and Newcombe to Farm Club in New England Loop

New York Times

NASHUA, N. H., April 4 (AP)—The Brooklyn Dodgers of the National League have assigned two Negro players to their Nashua farm club, Fred H. Dobens, president of the New England League team, said today.

They are Donald Newcombe, 6-foot-4, 22-year-old right-handed pitcher from Elizabeth, N. J., and Roy Campanella, 25, of Philadelphia, said by the Dodgers to be the best catcher in Negro baseball.

Newcombe played with the Newark Eagles last year, winning fourteen games and losing four.

The Brooklyn club "is carrying its plan to give deserving Negro players a chance to make good in organized baseball down through its farm clubs," Dobens said.

Now in Organization

With the signing of Newcombe and Campanella, whose acquisition by the Nashua club was confirmed at the local headquarters of the

Campanella & Newcombe

Brooklyn Baseball Club yesterday, the Dodgers now have four Negro players in their farm organization.

In a precedent-shattering step last October, President Branch Rickey signed Jackie Robinson, a four-sport star and All-America halfback at U. C. L. A. and an outstanding shortstop with the Kansas City Monarchs, a Negro team. This marked the first time in the history of organized baseball the racial barrier had been scaled.

Having declared at the time his intention of giving a chance to succeed in the Brooklyn organization any Negro ball-player with the requisite ability, Rickey later announced the acquisition of John Wright, a pitcher. Robinson and Wright are currently with the Montreal team of the International League, another Dodger affiliate.

the sports ROUNDUP...

- **Rickey Scouts Campanella**
- **Jimcrow Apology in Philly**

Daily Worker

What with rookie Ferrell Anderson showing his inexperience behind the plate, and Stu Hofferth mysteriously absent since he was traded to the Flock for Billy Herman, it's rumored that a worried Branch Rickey is scouting his minor-league system for further backstop material.

Thurs. 6-20-46

According to one report, the Dodger boss made his first stop at Nassau, where the terrifically talented Negro catcher, Ray Campanella, is currently going great guns for the Class C club of the New England League.

From where we sit, Campy would be just what the doctored ordered for the woefully weak receiving department at Brooklyn. A powerful slugger, astute handler of pitchers, and possessor of a strong and accurate arm, the 25-year-old former star of the Baltimore Elite Giants could unquestionably fill the bill better than the inexperienced Anderson or the notoriously weak-hitting Hofferth, the man who came to Brooklyn via Boston and the Billy Herman trade.

The Flock, incidentally, are only a game and one-half in the lead now, and give signs of folding. The Pirates gave them a thorough drubbing in the Ebbets Field arc-light affair Tuesday night.

New York, N.Y.

Newcombs Whips Manchester for 2nd Victory; Campanella's Work Brilliant

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Ex-Newark Eagle Flinger Scores 8-1 Win While Fanning 8; Roy Thrills Home Fans

5-25-46

NASHUA, N.H. — Don Newcombe, former star of the Newark mound staff, and one of the first two members of his race to crash the New England League, chalked up his second win in as many starts here Thursday night, defeating the Manchester Giants, 8-1.

Newcombe, while registering the second of Nashua's three victories in league play, lifted his club to fourth place in the standings, two games behind the pace-setting Lynn Redlegs and one game out of second place.

In whipping the Giants, Newcombe completed his first 18 innings of organized pitching with only one run credited against him. He blanked the Pawtucket Slaters last week, 3-0, and yielded one tally in his Thursday night stint.

Against Pawtucket, the 22-year-old Elizabeth, N.J., righthander accumulated five strikeouts and gave up seven hits. Having fanned eight Giants while scattering six bingles Thursday, he thus totalled 13 whiffs for his first two games and spread 13 hits over the 18 frames.

5-25-46

Thursday's tilt was a breeze for Don.

In serious trouble only once, in the eighth, Newcombe was saved by his battery-mate, Roy Campanella, who picked Lee Clifton off third base with a neat peg to the third baseman Stan Lipka, white. Clifton had doubled to open the inning, then had moved to third on a roll-out.

That the pick-off play had prevented serious trouble for Newcombe was proven shortly when Mozzalli singled and Dahlberg followed with another single scoring Gallagher who had walked. Murphy walked to load the bases but Newcombe forced Fox to ground out, Rehm to Alston.

NASHUA	ab.	r.	h.	po.	a.	e.
Yeager,cf	4	2	2	1	0	0
Porter,rf	2	2	1	1	0	0
Detzel,lf	3	1	0	4	1	0
C'p'ella,c	3	1	0	9	1	0
Alston,1b	4	1	1	7	2	0
Wood,2b	4	0	1	0	4	0
Lipka,3b	4	1	1	1	1	0
Rehm,ss	4	0	0	2	1	2
Newc'be,p	4	0	1	2	1	0
Totals	32	8	7	27	11	2

MANCHESTER	ab.	r.	h.	po.	a.	e.
Hardin,ss	3	0	1	1	4	1
Clifton,1b	5	0	1	10	0	1
Galla'er,2b	3	1	0	2	2	0
Price,lf	5	0	1	2	0	0
Mozzali,cf	3	0	1	0	0	0
Dahlberg,rf	4	0	1	3	0	0
Mur'y,3b	3	0	0	2	1	0
Fox,c	3	0	1	4	1	0
Malone,p	2	0	0	0	1	0
aLazarus	1	0	0	0	0	0
Froning,p	0	0	0	0	0	0
bFinFrock	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	32	1	[illegible]	24	9	2

RBI—Campannella 2, Alston 3, Wood, Rehm, Dahlberg. 2BH—Newcombe, Lipka, Yaeger, Clifton. 3BH—Alston. SB—Hardin.

Sat.

NASHUA, N.H. — Counting three hits in four trips to the plate and scoring the first and third runs registered by his team, Roy Campanella led the Nashua Dodgers to a 4-3 win over the Lawrence Millionaires as the New England League season was opened here Tuesday night.

The victory gave the locals their second victory of the season in four games played to date, the only other score being that chalked up by Don Newcombe, former Newark Eagle flinger, when he blanked the Pawtucket Slaters, 3-0, last week.

Campanella scored the first in the second after singling, taking second on a wild pitch and scoring on a single by Dean Wood, white.

He tallied the third run when he led off in the sixth with a sharply hit single deep to short which Kissel knocked down but could not make a play on.

Tellier then walked Alston and Bodan to load the bases and Wood laced a hit out into right field, scoring both Campanella and Alston.

Campanella emerged from the Tuesday contest leading the locals in batting. The ex-Baltimore Elite Giant catcher was hitting .370 for the season's first four games.

On Monday night, Roy collected one safety in four times at bat as the Dodgers bowed to Manchester, 11-10, in a loosely-played game on the latter's field.

Summary:

NASHUA DODGERS	ab	r	h	po	a
Yaeger,cf	4	0	0	3	0
Detzel,lf	4	0	2	0	0
Lipka,3b	3	0	0	1	0
C'p'n'lla,c	4	2	3	10	1
Alston,1b	3	1	1	5	1
Bodan,rf	3	0	0	2	0
Wood,2b	3	0	2	3	2
Rehm,ss	3	0	1	2	1
Brown,p	2	0	0	1	1
Totals	29	4	9	27	6

LAWRENCE	ab	r	h	po	a
Bezemes,cf	4	0	0	3	0
Kissell,ss	3	1	0	2	2
Johnson,1b	4	0	0	10	0
Cearley,rf	5	0	1	0	1
Belanger,lf	5	1	2	0	0
Davis,2b	2	1	0	0	0
Brygider,3b	4	0	1	0	2
Lombardi,c	4	0	1	5	0
Tellier,p	2	0	0	0	5
a-Kadis	0	0	0	0	0
McEvoy,p	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	3	5	24	13

a-batted for Tellier in 8th.

Score by innings —
NASHUA .... 010 012 00x—4
LAWRENCE .... 100 000 001—3

Campanella And Don Newcombe

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Roy Campanella, former catcher for the Elite Giants and now with the Nashua club of the New England League, is 35th in the batting list for players who have played in 25 or more games.

Campanella has played in 45 games, been to bat 154 times. He has scored 28 runs, made 42 hits. Four of these have been for two bases, three for three bases and seven have been home runs. He has batted in seven runs.

Only two men in the New England League have made more homers than Campanella.

Don Newcombe, also of the Nashua club and former hurler for the Newark Eagles in the Negro National League, is 10th in the list of pitchers winning 10 or more games. *Sat. 7-20-46*

Newcombe has worked in 11 games. He has pitched 68 innings, allowed 52 hits, issued 38 bases on balls and has fanned 48. He has pitched six complete games and has one shutout to his credit. He has five wins and three losses, a percentage of .625.

Nashua is sixth place in the league race.

Campanella, Newcombe High in N.E. Averages

Afro American

NEW ENGLAND LEAGUE INDIVIDUAL BATTING RECORDS

Player and Club	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	PC
Brygider, Lawrence	6	15	2	7	1	0	0	1	.467
Jusczyk, Pawtucket	5	18	3	8	2	0	0	1	.444
Piano, Lynn	6	22	7	9	0	1	0	0	.409
Coughlin, Pawtucket	7	25	2	10	1	0	0	0	.400
Caprio, Portland	5	15	3	6	0	0	0	0	.400
Cote, Cranston	11	42	9	16	1	0	2	0	.381
Alston, Nashua	8	32	5	12	1	1	2	0	.375
Clifton, Manchester	7	33	8	12	3	0	2	1	.375
Lynk, Lynn	6	25	3	9	4	0	0	0	.360
Chiros, Fall River	8	23	1	8	2	0	0	0	.348
Yankowski, Fall River	9	36	5	12	3	1	1	2	.333
CAMPANELLA, Nashua	8	28	7	9	1	0	1	1	.321
Wood, Nashua	6	22	3	7	1	0	0	1	.318
Gallagher, Manchester	9	32	11	10	1	0	3	2	.313
Nafie, Pawtucket	7	26	4	8	2	0	0	0	.308
Player and Club	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	PC

NEW ENGLAND LEAGUE PITCHING
(One Decsion or More)

Player and Club	G	IP	H	BB	SO	Gs	Outs	W	L	PC
Kadis, Lawrence	3	26	23	9	14	2	—	3	—	1.000
Fallon, Cranston	3	24	22	4	14	2	—	3	—	1.000
NEWCOMBE, Nashua	3	19	13	9	13	2	1	2	—	1.000
Phipps, Portland	2	17	17	7	6	1	—	2	—	1.000
Cress, Lynn	2	20	11	6	13	1	—	2	—	1.000
Wright, Lynn	2	18	16	10	14	2	—	2	—	1.000
Wood, Cranston	2	18	30	4	6	2	—	2	—	1.000
Cerrone, Fall River	2	0	10	3	4	—	—	1	—	1.000

Campanella, former Baltimore Elita Giants' catcher, set the hitting pace in the six games, the final of which was an 8-2 victory over the Massachusetts clan on Thursday. Campy banged out eight hits in 20 trips to the plate for an average of .400. He also tallied eight runs. *9-21-46*

Newcombe, who came here from the Newark Eagles, took the mound in the crucial game on Wednesday. With the series tied at 2-all, big Don was called on by Manager Walt Alston for the "big" one. He scattered 10 hits and struck out seven batters while scoring a 6-3 decision.

NASHUA	Ab	r	h	o	a	LYNN	Ab	r	h	o	a
Yaeger, cf	4	0	1	2	0	Boyce, cf	5	2	4	1	0
Kellogg, lf	4	1	2	1	0	Sperry, 1b	3	0	1	14	2
Lipka, 3b	4	1	2	1	3	Van Eman, rf	5	0	2	2	0
Campanella, c	4	0	0	7	0	Piano, lf	4	0	0	2	0
Galipeau, 1b	2	2	1	11	0	Batts, c	4	0	1	3	3
Wood, 2b	3	1	1	3	4	Sommer, 2b	4	0	0	2	5
DeMars, ss	4	0	1	1	1	DiBiasi, 3b	3	0	1	0	0
Kalbough, rf	4	0	0	1	0	Langworthy, c	0	1	0	0	0
Newcombe, p	4	1	1	0	2	[illegible], ss	3	0	1	3	7
						[illegible]	0	0	0	0	0
						[illegible]kel, p	2	0	0	0	5
						[illegible] p	0	0	0	0	1
						[illegible]y	1	0	0	0	0
Totals	37	6	0	27	10	Totals	35	3	10	27	21

SCORE BY INNINGS

NASHUA ....000 004 110—6
LYNN ....100 000 002—3

2BH—Moyce. 3BH—DeMars. Sacrifice—Yaeger, Wood Sperry. Bases on balls—by Bullwinkel (1), by Wright (1), by Newcombe (3). Struck out by Bullwinkel (1), by Wright (3), by Newcombe (7).

CAMPY UNANIMOUS ALL-STAR CHOICE

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Sat. 9-7-46

Roy Campanella, one of the five Negroes signed by the Brooklyn Dodger organization, has been unanimously chosen catcher for the New England League's All-Star Team. There wasn't a dissenting vote for Campy's selection, thus making the Nashua Dodger backstop one of three men so honored as unanimous choices in the balloting.

For the 113 games he's played thus far, Campy has collected 114 hits for a .289 average, has knocked in 91 runs and clouted 13 circuit clouts.

Big Donald Newcombe, the other Negro making history with the Nashua Dodgers, has an excellent pitching record of 14 wins and four setbacks. The blazing fastballer, however, wasn't named on the league's All-Star Team.

COMING: "Worker" Exclusive on Campy and Don

By Bill Mardo

Daily Worker

Before delving any deeper into this column, we'd like to announce that our Boston correspondent, Eddie Garfield, has come through with a tremendous story on Roy Campanella and Donald Newcombe—the two Negro stars with the Dodger farm club at Nashua—and the article will run next Sunday in The Worker magazine section.

Garfield interviewed Campy and Don, their teammates, the Nashua manager, the fans and local sports editor—and we're sure you won't want to miss this wonderful Worker exclusive complete with photos you've never seen before. So order extra copies of The Worker for your friends, union buddies, and neighborhood clubs. To my knowledge, no other big paper has yet done a spread on Campanella and Newcombe, and here's an opportunity to get the lowdown first hand. *Sat. 8-3-46*

Believe me, Garfield's story is a pip.

New York, N.Y.

Campanella And Don Newcombe

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat.

Roy Campanella, former catcher for the Baltimore Elite Giants, is way down the list in the New England league batting list. Campanella, playing with the Nashua, N. H. team, has been in 51 games and at the bat 174 times. He has made 47 hits, scored 29 runs. Six of his hits have been doubles, three have been triples and seven have been homers. He has stolen eight bases.

Because Campanella is a catcher he doesn't do the backstopping in every game. *7-27-46*

Don Newcombe, former pitcher for the Newark Eagles, is tied for 10th in the pitching list for those hurlers who have been in 13 or more games and have four or more wins. Don has pitched in 13 games. He has hurled 75 innings, allowed 58 hits and 38 bases on balls. He has struck out 48 men.

With six wins, including one shutout, and three losses, Newcombe has a pitching average of .667.

Newcombe, Campy Help Win Playoff

Baltimore, Md. Afro-American

Ex-Newark Hurler on Mound as Dodgers Take New England Title

NASHUA, N.H. — Branch Rickey's Nashua farmhands, with Roy Campanella and Don Newcombe in prominent roles, defeated the Lynn Red Sox four games to two, to cop the Governor's Cup playoff series of the new England League here last week.

Newcombe Wins 3rd Straight Game for Nashua Dodgers

Afro-American

NASHUA, N.H. — Don Newcombe, carrying on in the absence of teammate Roy Campanella, chalked up his third straight victory in the New England League here Saturday night, defeating the Lynn Red Sox, 7-4, for his Nashua Dodgers. *6-8-46*

It was Don's third win of the year and his all the way. All he did during the night was set down the Lynn Red Sox with five hits, strike out nine, walk eight, score a run himself and drive in two others with a double.

Newcombe weakened slightly in the eighth after holding the opposition scoreless for the first seven frames. The Sox pushed across three tallies in the eighth and added another in the ninth on a home-run by Ray Piano, white.

Baltimore

NASHUA	ab	r	h	po	a	e
Yaeger,cf	5	2	1	2	0	0
Porter,rf	5	1	2	3	0	0
Detzel,lf	3	0	0	1	0	0
Alston,1b	4	0	0	6	0	1
Wood,2b	3	1	0	3	3	0
Lipka,3b	5	1	2	2	1	0
Rehm,ss	3	1	2	1	2	0
Gallip'u,c	2	0	0	9	1	0
Newc'be,p	2	1	1	0	1	0
Totals	32	7	8	27	8	1

LYNN	ab	r	h	po	a	e
Piano,lf	5	1	2	4	1	0
Lynk,rf	5	1	1	1	0	0
Sperry,1b	2	1	0	7	0	1
DiBlassi,3b	2	0	0	0	1	0
Boyce,cf	4	0	1	6	0	0
S'mm's,2b	3	0	0	2	2	1
Kaney,ss	3	0	0	2	4	0
L'gw'thy,c	4	0	1	2	0	1
V'n L'd'n,p	1	0	0	0	2	0
Honan,p	0	0	0	0	0	0
B'llw'kle,p	0	0	0	0	0	0
aBatts	0	0	0	0	0	0
bWall	0	1	0	0	0	0
cKarelis	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	30	4	5	24	10	3

aBatted for Van Leiden in the 6th
bBatted for Honan in the 8th
cBatted for Bullwinkle in the 9th

Two-base hit — Newcombe. Three-base hits — Yaeger, Lynk. Home runs — Porter, Piano. Double play — Newcombe, Lipka, Wood. Base on balls — off Newcombe 8, off aVn Leiden 4, off Honan 3, off Bullwinkle 1. Hit by pitcher — Wood. Struck out — by Newcombe 9, by Bullwinkle 1.

Newcombe Hurls, Hits Nashua to 7-1 Victory

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Former Newark Eagle Ace Cops 7th Straight; Gives 4 Hits, Belts Homer

Sat. 7-27-46

FALL RIVER, Mass.—Pitching superb ball despite the fact he is reputedly suffering from a sore arm, Don Newcombe, 21-year-old Elizabeth, N.J., youngster handed the Fall River Indians a neat going-over here Wednesday, limiting them to four measly hits while scoring a 7-1 victory for his seventh win of the season for Nashua Dodgers.

Don Newcombe

Newcombe, who last week was described by none other than Brooklyn Dodger President Branch Rickey as having "a very sore arm," struck out 14 opposing batsmen in the nightcap of a doubleheader. The Nashua boys dropped the first game, 5-4, with ex-Bum Dick Mlady, white, on the hill.

Rickey, who maintains the Nashua franchise as a farm club, told the AFRO last Monday morning that Newcombe was playing but was suffering with his arm.

Slam Homer, Too

In addition to hurling magnficent ball, the former Newark Eagle product belted a two-run homer far over the leftfield fence in the fourth inning to put the contest on ice. He had previously singled two mates home to give Nashua a 2-1 lead in the second.

Roy Campanella, ex-Baltimore Elite Giant receiver, handled Newcombe's deliveries. He clouted a triple in four trips to the plate in the losing game and obtained a single to aid the winning cause. In addition, he snuffed out two would-be Fall River base-stealers with blazing throws to second.

FALL RIVERS	ab	r	h	o	a
Azzone,ss	4	0	0	2	3
Brygider,3b	3	0	1	1	2
Zygami,1b	4	0	0	8	1
Yankowski,c	3	1	0	5	1
Daunt,2b	4	0	0	4	4
Wett'holm,rf	3	0	1	2	0
Buckley,lf	2	0	1	1	0
Hawkins,cf	3	0	1	3	0
Sexton,p	1	0	0	1	0
Cerrone,p	2	0	0	0	0
a Lancelotti	1	0	0	0	0
Totals	30	1	4	27	11

NASHUA	ab	r	h	o	a
Yaegar,cf	4	2	2	1	0
Porter,rf	5	1	2	1	1
Detzel,lf	5	0	3	1	0
Camp'ella,c	4	0	1	14	0
Kellogg,1b	5	0	0	6	0
Wood,2b	4	0	0	2	1
DeMars,ss	3	1	0	1	3
Lipka,3b	4	2	1	1	2
Newcombe,p	4	1	2	0	0
Totals	88	7	11	27	7

SCORE BY INNINGS

NASHUA	020	302	000	—7
FALL RIVER	010	000	000	—1

Two-base hits—Detzel. RBI—Yaegar 2, Delzel, Campanella, Newcombe 3, Buckley. HR—Newcombe, Yaegar. SB—Yankowski. Base on balls off Newcombe 4, Sexton 3. Struck out by Newcombe 14, Sexton 3, Cerrone 1.

Newcombe Near Record with 14 Strikeouts

FALL RIVER, Mass.—When Don Newcombe, righthander of the Nashua Dodgers, Brooklyn farm club, fanned 14 Fall River batters in his 7-1 triumph here Wednesday, he was just one whiff shy of the New England League's record for strikeouts.

Walker Cress, league-leading, ace of the all-white Lynn outfit, struck out 15 Dodgers several weeks ago to set up a league record.

Newcombe's Bat Raises Query: Is He Pitcher?

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NASHUA, N.H. — Baseball fans in this little New England League hamlet are buzzing with questions concerning Don Newcombe, former Newark Eagle flinger, now playing with the local Brooklyn Dodger farm club.

They want to know, "Is this guy a pitcher or a hitter?"

Especially is this true since Newcombe has come through so handsomely each time he has been sent to the plate by Manager Walt Alston, white, to take the swing for a teammate.

In two games last week, Newcombe came to bat in the ninth inning and banged out doubles to tally the winning runs, the first time giving Nashua a 4-3 triumph when he sent ex-Baltimore Elite Roy Campanella across, and the second time earning a 2-1 decision for his mates. *Sat. 6-29-46*

Saturday night, he responded to the call by clouting a homer over the centerfield fence with a man on, tallying the tying and winning runs.

Roy Partlow, Third Negro To Join Montreal Royals

Atlanta Daily World *Atlanta, Ga.*

MONTREAL — (NNPA) — Roy Partlow, ace southpaw pitcher of the Philadelphia Stars, was signed last Tuesday by the Montreal Royals of the International Baseball League.

The 30-year-old hurler thus became the third colored star to win a contract in organized baseball, following in the footsteps of Jackie Robinson, a second baseman, and Pitcher John Wright. Both are with Montreal.

Partlow, who lives in Philadelphia, hurled 17 games last year for the Stars, winning nine and losing four. His .692 average was the second best in the Negro National League. *Wed. 5-22-46*

He was purchased by the Stars from the Homestead Grays and has seen five years' service in the colored circuit. A war veteran, he became a member of the Stars' hurling corps after service in the Army during 1944.

REPORTED WEDNESDAY

Partlow was scheduled to report to the Montreal Royals last Wednesday. Terms of the contract which he holds with the Royals were not disclosed.

Partlow, who recorded 83 strikeouts in 1945, probably attracted the attention of Branch Rickey, head of the parent Brooklyn Club, last year when he pitched in an exhibition game at Ebbets Field. Partlow hurled one of two contests there between the National League All-Stars and Negro National League Stars. *Wed. 5-22-46*

Partlow left Philadelphia last Monday to report to Rickey in Brooklyn for instructions in regard to his Montreal trip, his wife said in Philadelphia Tuesday.

Mrs. Partlow also said that both Roy and she are "really thrilled" over her husband's opportunity to play in organized baseball.

She added that Roy had rejected a "$600-a-month" offer from Jorge Pasquel to jump to the Mexican League this season. Previous experience with baseball south-of-the-border convinced Partlow that he wanted no part of the Mexican circuit adventure, she explained.

BROOKLYN DODGERS SEND ANOTHER NEGRO PLAYER TO MONTREAL

Miami Whip *Miami, Fla.* *Saturday 6-8-46*

MONTREAL, Quebec — (ANP) — A third Negro player is now a member of the Montreal Royals' International League baseball team. He it Roy Partlow, a 30-year-old pitcher from Philadelphia, who was signed last Tuesday. Partlow joins Jackie Robinson, infielder and John Wright, pitcher, both signed earlier this year.

Montreal Signs Negro Pitcher

Louisville, Ky. *Courier-Journal*

Montreal, May 14 (AP)—Roy Partlow, 30-year-old Negro pitcher from Philadelphia, was signed today by the Montreal Royals of the International Baseball League. No terms of his contract was announced.

Partlow, who will report to Royals tomorrow, became the third Negro player to crash organized baseball with the Brooklyn Dodgers Class AAA farm. The others are Second-Baseman Jack Robinson and Pitcher John Wright. *5-15-46*

Partlow Wins For Montreal

Daily Worker *New York, N.Y.*

Roy Partlow, the Negro lefthander who joined Jackie Robinson on the Montreal Royals, won his first starting game Monday, when he pitched a five-hitter against the Jersey City Giants as Montreal chalked up a 16-2 triumph.

Partlow struck out eight "Little Giants" over the route. Jackie Robinson, out the past few weeks with an injured leg, returned to the lineup and chipped in with two hits out of three times up, drove in two runs, and stole a base. *6-26-46*

Until Monday, Partlow had been used only in relief roles—but on the basis of his fine showing against Jersey City, he'll probably be an added starter on the club which leads the International League.

Partlow Wins for Royals by 5-2

the Afro-American *Baltimore, Md.* *Sat.*

MONTREAL — Roy Partlow, Montreal hurler, gained a 5-2 victory over the Toronto Leafs here Saturday in the nightcap of a doubleheader which the Royals also won, 2-0.

Partlow, now with three wins and no defeats, relieved Gabbard, starting hurler, in the fifth and, who gave up one hit in two innings, was relieved by Kehn in the sixth after the Royals had piled up a 5-2 lead. *Sat. 7-13-46*

Jackie Robinson secured two hits out of four trips to the plate in the opening game, stole a base and figured in three double plays without a miscue in seven chances. In the night setto he went hitless on three tries but batted in a run and sacrificed.

Partlow Sent To Three-Rivers

Daily Worker *7-18-46* *New York, N.Y.*

Roy Partlow, the Negro righthander who had won two and lost one since joining the Montreal Royals two months ago, was yesterday optioned to the Three-Rivers Club of the Canadian-American League. Partlow had been used mostly in relief roles on the talent-heavy Royals, but had fared rather impressively in his last few starting assignments. At Three-Rivers he joins Johnny Wright, the other Negro twirler who was sent from Montreal to the lesser Dodger farm club last May.

Another Negro, Roy Partlow, Is Added to the Montreal Royals

The Third Colored Star Wins Contract With League Team

The Call

MONTREAL. — (NNPA)—Roy Partlow, ace southpaw pitcher of the Philadelphia Stars, was signed last Tuesday by the Montreal Royals of the International Baseball league. *Fri. 5-24-46*

The 30-year-old hurler thus became the third colored star to win a contract in organized baseball, following in the footsteps of Jackie Robinson, a second baseman, and pitcher John Wright. Both are with Montreal.

Partlow, who lives in Philadelphia, hurled 17 games last year for the Stars, winning nine and losing four. His .692 average was the second best in the Negro National league.

He was purchased by the Stars from the Homestead Grays and has seen five years' service in the colored circuit. A war veteran, he became a member of the Stars' hurling corps after service in the army during 1944.

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Partlow, who recorded 83 strikeouts in 1945, probably attracted the attention of Branch Rickey, head of the parent Brooklyn club, last year when he pitched in an exhibition game at Ebbets field. Partlow hurled one of two contests there between the National league All-Stars and Negro National league Stars.

Partlow left Philadelphia last Monday to report to Rickey in Brooklyn for instructions in regard to his Montreal trip, his wife said, in Philadelphia, Tuesday. *Kansas City*

Mrs. Partlow also said that both Roy and she are "really thrilled" over her husband's opportunity to play in organized baseball.

She added that Roy had rejected a "$600-a-month" offer from Jorge Pasquel to jump to the Mexican league this season. Previous experience with baseball south-of-the-border convinced Partlow that he wanted no part of the Mexican circuit adventure, she explained. *Fri. 5-24-46*

Partlow twirled for Puerto Rico last winter and has also pitched for teams in Mexico, Cuba and South America. Pasquel endeavored to sign him for his Torreon club in the Mexican league. Mrs. Partlow said.

Born and educated in Cincinnati, Partlow played with the Cincinnati Tigers prior to joining the Homestead Grays. He married the former Dorothy Nelson, of Philadelphia, in November, 1939, and since then the Partlows have made their home in that city.

Roy Partlow, Third Negro To Join Montreal Royals

63a *Daily World*

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to his Montreal trip, his wife said in Phiadelphia Tuesday.

Mrs. Partlow also said that both Roy and she are "really thrilled" over her husband's opportunity to play in organized baseball.

She added that Roy had rejected a $600-a-month" offer from Jorge Pasquel to jump to the Mexican League this season. Previous experience with baseball south-of-the-border convinced Partlow that he wanted no part of the Mexican circuit adventure, she explained.

Robinson Gets Three Hits as Royals Split

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

By SAM MALTIN

MONTREAL—It was "Victory Week" for the Montreal Royals here in every sense of its meaning. They didn't lose a game in six starts, and fought their way from fourth place to lead the International Baseball League with thirteen triumphs against seven losses for a .650 average.

Sat.

But the rise in baseball stock for the Montrealers was shadowed by "L'Affaire Breard." The popular all-star shortstop, who came off a local sandlot to earn the plaudits of players, managers and sports-writers with his great showing on the field, is reported to be on the way to Mexico, to play for the Pasquel Brothers.

Pa.

It all started when Stan Breard failed to show up for last Wednesday's doubleheader with Newark Bears, an important series for Royals. There was no phone call from the hometown product, or a message in any form. Half-an-hour before game time, Gerry Goslin, Royals' road-secretary, phoned his home and Breard's only reply to his absence, was, "I can't play to-day, I have to mind the baby."

To Manager Clay Hopper and General Manager Mel Jones, this was something new in baseball. A player stays home to mind the baby. He was told to report for batting practice next day. He didn't. He was warned that he better make up his mind about his future with the Montreal Club—and do it fast. *5-18-46*

Breard showed up on Friday, listened to "words" from Jones and Hopper and was fined $50 and told, next time it would be much more. And a third time, no Breard with the Montreal Club. He went through the pre-game workout with the Royals, but was left out of the lineup. Near the end of the game he again vanished.

Meanwhile rumor floated around that he had signed a Mexican League contract. It grew as Breard kept mum and refused to talk to club officials until Saturday morning when a family meeting between Breard, his wife, Jones, and Goslin settled matters — for the time being.

It was an open secret that it was strictly a domestic issue with Breard. Which is not for this family paper to go into. But The Courier had a half-hour talk with Mrs. Breard on Friday night. She said that Stan hasn't been home since Wednesday afternoon and did threaten to go to Mexico—for more than baseball playing. She wants him to play here.

FRIDAY'S GAME

BALTIMORE	ab.	r.	h.	p.	MONTREAL	ab.	r.	h.	p.
Cihocki,2b..	5	0	0	0	Rackley,cf..	4	1	1	0
Campbell,lf.	3	0	1	5	ROBINSON,2	4	2	2	3
Ward,rf....	2	0	0	1	Tatum,lf....	4	0	2	3
Mellendick,cf	3	0	1	2	Durrett,rf...	4	1	2	2
Repass,ss...	3	0	0	0	Burge,1b....	4	1	1	8
Skaff,1b....	3	0	0	8	Jorgensen,3b	3	0	0	1
Kahn,c.....	4	0	1	6	Howell,c....	3	0	0	6
Seghi,3b....	4	1	2	1	Campanis,ss.	3	0	0	4
Barillari,p..	2	0	0	1	Hathaway,p.	3	0	0	0
*Honochick.	0	0	0	0					
Calvert,p...	0	0	0	0					
†Wodzicki..	1	0	0	0					
Totals...	30	1	5	24	Totals....	32	5	8	27

* Batted for Barillari in 8th.
† Batted for Calvert in 9th.

BALTIMORE............	000 000 010—1
MONTREAL..............	000 021 02*—5

Summary: Errors — Kahn, Campbell; Campanis, Repass. Runs batted in—Burge, 2; Tatum, Ward, Robinson, Durrett. Two-base hit—Campbell. Home run — Burge. Stolen bases—Rackley, 2; Robinson. Double plays — Hathaway to Campanis to Burge, Jorgensen to Robinson to Burge, Campbell to Kahn, Durrett to Camuanis. Left on bases—Baltimore, 9; Montreal, 3. Bases on balls—Off Hathaway, 6. Struck out, by Barillari, 3; Calvert, 2; Hathaway, 5. Hits, off Barillari, 5 in 7 innings; Calvert, 3 in 1. Hit by pitcher, by Hathaway (Honochick). Passed ball — Kahn. Losing pitcher, Barillari. Umpires—Winters, plate; Tobin, bases. Time—2:00. Attendance—2,500 (estimated).

MONTREAL—The largest crowd ever to jam the Stadium here during a regular league game, close to 24,000, saw the Montreal Royals split a doubleheader with Baltimore Orioles on Sunday. The Royal took the first game 12 to 1, but dropped the abbreviated seven-inning second game, 6 to 2.

Jackie Robinson made another debut, as this was the first chance thousands of the Sunday crowd had an opportunity to see him in action, and the "Pasadena Flash" didn't disappoint them. He smacked three sharp singles in four official times at bat in the first game and sparked the infield work with four assists. His final appearance at the plate in the opener nearly topped the fence, but lady luck looked the other way. *5-18-46*

FIRST GAME

BALTIMORE	ab.	r.	h.	p.	ROYALS	ab.	r.	h.	p.
Cihocki,2b.	4	0	1	0	Rackley,rf..	4	2	2	0
Bell,lf.....	3	0	0	3	ROBINSON,2	4	2	3	0
Ward,rf....	3	0	1	2	Shuba,lf....	3	2	1	0
Mell'dick,cf	3	1	1	0	Durrett,cf..	4	3	2	2
Repass,ss..	4	0	1	3	Burge,1b...	5	0	1	18
Murray,1b.	4	0	1	12	Jorgensen,3b	4	1	0	1
Kahn,c.....	3	0	0	3	Howell,c....	0	0	0	2
Seghi,3b....	3	0	0	1	Franks,c....	5	1	3	3
West,p.....	2	0	0	0	Companis,ss	4	1	1	1
Swift,p.....	1	0	0	0	Gabbard,p..	4	0	0	0
Totals...	30	1	5	24	Totals..	37	12	13	27

BALTIMORE.............	010 000 000— 1
ROYALS................	000 053 22*—12

Summary: Errors — Cihocki, Gabbard. Runs batted in—Shuba, Burge, Frank, 3; Durrett, 5; Rackley, 2. Two-base hits—Cihocki, Franks. Home runs—Durrett, 2. Stolen bases — Ward, Rackley. Double plays—Campani to Burge. Left on bases—Baltimore, 5; Montreal, 7. Bases on balls—West, 5; Swift, 0; Gabbard, 2. Strikeouts—By West, 2; Swift, 1; Gabbard, 3. Hits—Off West, 8 in 5⅔ innings; Swift, 5 in 2⅓ innings. Hit by pitcher—By West, Robinson; Gabbard, Campbell. Passed balls—Kahn. Losing pitcher—West. Umpires — Tobin, plate; Winters, bases. Time—2:15.

SECOND GAME

	R.	H.	E.
BALTIMORE	6	7	2
ROYALS	2	3	0

Summary: Errors—Repass, Cihocki. Runs batted in—Robinson, Seghi, Cihocki, Ward

Mellendick, 3; Durrett. Two-base hits—Skaff, Kahn, 2; Cihocki. Three-base hits—Rackley, Mellendick. Home run—Durrett. Sacrifice—Seghi. Double plays—Jorgensen to Robinson to Burge, Skaff (unassisted). Left on bases—Baltimore, 3; Montreal, 4. Bases on balls — Kehn, 3; DeForge, 0; Laga, 0; Ronay, 2. Strikeouts — Kehn, 3; DeForge, 0; Laga, 2; Ronay, 3. Hits off Kehn, 6, in 4⅔ innings; DeForge, 0 in ⅓ inning; Laga, 1 in 2. Losing pitcher—Kehn. Umpires—Winters, plate; Tobin, bases. Time—1:35

Montreal Hails Robinson As 'Athlete of the Year'

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 12-28-46

MONTREAL—No sooner than you can say Jack Robinson, the mention of his name starts local fans "drooling" over their adopted Montrealer, Jack Roosevelt Robinson, better known as plain Jackie Robinson.

The great second-sacker, who sparked Montreal Royals to the Little World Series last fall and who came through with the highest batting average in the history of the Montreal International League Baseball Club, has been nominated by a number of sports writers as the "Best Individual Performer in Sports for 1946" and as the athlete to come through with the best individual achievement.

Montreal's Les Canadiens, world hockey champions, are in the midst of their 1946-'47 season, and have taken over the sports attention of the fans, but not enough to allow elbow room for Robinson. The other night all leading local sports people and writers gathered at an affair to honor outstanding Montreal athletes. When the official speech-making was finished and the boys broke away for their own little baseball property of the Montreal Club and will report to Manager Clay Hopper when spring training gets under way.

Branch Rickey and Durocher know Jackie's baseball talents and he'll be given a chance to make a go of the second base job in the early tryouts, meanwhile work out at third as that's one position that is wide open with the Flatbush team.

Jackie himself would like to play for Montreal if he can't make the Brooklyn club and the fans are selfish enough to want him back. In all the housing shortages, the flashy second sacker would have little trouble in getting himself a home here if he ever decides to make Montreal his family headquarters.

He'll always be top man in popularity here. As one fan said of Jackie:

"Robinson is a credit to the race—not the colored race—the human race."

League, was lavish in his praise for Jackie Robinson, local baseball player who was the first Negro to be signed by the majors in nearly a half century.

Robinson

Durocher, who had taken a mediocre club and piloted them into a bitter fight for the league championship and losing to the St. Louis Cardinals by a narrow margin, was honor guest at a breakfast here last week.

He assured his hearers that Robinson, leading hitter in the International League and second baseman for the Memorial Royals, would be given a tryout with the Brooklyn Dodgers this coming spring and would most likely be a member of the club during the regular playing season in 1947.

Said Durocher, "Besides Robinson, Brooklyn will have two or three good infielders next year but Jackie will get the job if he can outplay them.

"Robinson is a great bunter. I'd say he is better than Shoeless Joe Jackson, formerly of the Chicago White Sox. Robinson is an excellent pivot man on double plays.

"Actually, he can't be beaten for third base and there isn't a finer gentleman on the Montreal club."

Jackie To Get Dodger Tryout

Defender Chicago, Ill.

'Robinson Will Play Third'—Durocher

Sat. 11-23-46

LOS ANGELES.—Leo Durocher, manager and mouthpiece of the Brooklyn Dodgers of the National

ROBINSON, WHO PLAYS shortstop for the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro American League, was signed by Branch Rickey Sr., for a tryout with the Montreal club, farm club of the Brooklyn team of which Rickey is president.

Jackie received $3,500 for signing the contract and was paid $600 per month, $100 more per month than he was receiving as a member of the Monarchs club.

After signing Robinson, for whom he paid the Kansas City club nothing, Rickey signed John Wright of the Washington Homestead Grays paying Wright a bonus of $3,250 and a monthly salary of $350. Wright finished the season with the Three Rivers team of the Canadian-American league, a farm club of the Montreal Royals after Wright showed that he needed more seasoning before continuing as a Royal hurler.

Rickey's office acknowledges the fact that the only Negro player taken last year and paid for was Roy Partlow of the Philadelphia Stars of the Negro National League. Partlow was sold by the Stars for a $1,000 cash consideration.

Roy Campanella, formerly with the Baltimore Elite Giants, signed to play with the Dodger setup for $2,400 and a monthly salary of $185. Campanella received an extra $400 for the play-off series in the New England league where he caught for the Nashua, N. H., Dodgers. Don Newcombe, who finished the 1945 season with Mrs. Effa Manley's Newark Eagles, was signed by Rickey for cash consideration of $1,000 and a salary of $350 per month. Partlow's bonus for signing was $1,500.

Rickey's answer to the Negro club owners was that none of the players signed other than Partlow were under contracts to their various clubs, Robinson's contract with the Monarchs being verbal

* * *

THE OWNERS of the clubs in both the Negro National and the Negro American League came right back and revamped their contracts to read exactly the same as the contracts in the American and National Leagues except the Negro owners inserted the word Negro to make the contracts conform with their own two leagues. The Negro club owners claimed their players were as much their property as any of Rickey's players.

This move was done to balk any further raids by Rickey. If existing contracts and clauses in the Negro American and Negro National Leagues do not stand up, then the contracts in the American and National Laegues are no good. That was one of the reasons Rickey paid the Philly Stars for Partlow's contract.

The Negro leaguers, according to Dr. J. B. Martin, president of the Negro American League and elected the first Negro to serve a trustee on the sanitary district of Cook County, welcomes the integration of Negroes in the major leagues. "It helps our attendance to increase," Dr. Martin said. "Also there are several players in our leagues who are of major league calibre. The club owners stand ready to do business in a business manner with Rickey or any major league club owner. We stand for advancement of the Negro ball player."

Reveals Dodger Plan to Try Jackie at 3rd

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—Leo Durocher, manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, revealed the plan to test Jackie Robinson at third base with the National League runners-up when interviewed at the recent major league meetings here.

The Brooklyn pilot told newspapermen that the sensational Montreal second baseman would again be signed to a Royal contract and would go to training camp in the spring along with that club.

He said further that Jackie would more than likely be shifted to third base when the Royals and Dodgers go to Panama for their scheduled 12-game exhibition series. The reason: Lippy Leo wishes to see Jackie at work at the hot corner. *Sat. 12-28-46*

If he shows up as well in this position as he did at second for Montreal, and if he hits Dodger pitching with the same authority he pounded International League tossing, it is a cinch the California youngster will be installed at third for Brooklyn.

The Dodgers tried seven players at third base last year after they had let out Billy Herman none performing satisfactorily.

Jackie batted .349 to lead the International League hitting in 1946, scored 113 runs, drove in 65 and stole 40 bases.

63a

In the opinion of International League observers, Robinson can't miss.

"He was the best ball player in the minors last summer," said one baseball magnate in a discussion about Robinson at the recent meetings. "He has the four requisites that a big leaguer needs. Jackie can hit, run, throw and hit with power. I don't see how

...SPORT-LIGHT...

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

JOHN I. JOHNSON, Sports Editor

Fri. 11-29-46

Jackie Robinson's teammate on the Montreal Royals, infielder Tommy Tatum, a Texan, isn't sure Jackie will make the majors. Tommy took time out to make this brilliant observation last week, when questioned about the sensational Negro ball players' chances to win a berth with the Brooklyn Dodgers next year. Says Tommy Tatum:

"They couldn't have picked a better Negro than Robinson to break down the color line. If all Negroes were as intelligent and well mannered as Robinson, It'd be perfectly all right to have them in baseball. But, I'm afraid they won't find many Robinsons."

Mr. Tommy Tatum is emphatically right. There are no more Jackie Robinsons. There are no more Franklin D. Roosevelts, no more Lippy Durochers, no more Joe Louises. No more nothing that is exactly like something else.

ROBINSON KNOWS SCORE

And we are not too sure that we are sorry that there is only one of a kind, instead of good poker-hand human beings. Think of the spice that's sprinkled on life by the diversion. Think of the deliciousness of the Thanksgiving turkey, mainly because it has both dark and white meat. Who'd want a one meat bird?

No, there is no more Jackie Robinsons, but, Mr. Tatum, there are, we feel sure, several Negro ball players who are better than Jackie Robinson. We believe Jackie would admit that there are many ball players who play the game better than he does. Jackie's popularity with his team and with the fans did not all come from his playing baseball. Much of it is the result of knowing how to get along with people. You see Robinson is a psychologist. He knows the score and he knows how to play his hand.

Now, it is this point where many men who can out play Jackie on the diamond, probably would have failed to click. And Spring training can't teach a fellow the art of rubbing the fur in the right direction. Can't instill in him the will to win a guy like Tatum, for instance.

HAS ONE OBJECTIVE

This business of making and keeping friends is a thinking job. Tatum, by inferring that there are no other Negro players capable of playing in Jackie's position, does not have what it takes to make friends. He speaks well of Robinson because Robinson planted and cultivated good will by his actions. But had the conditions been reversed, Tatum, with his present attitude, would not have made the grade. He's just not smart enough.

Like many southerners, Tatum is a 'one-Negro liker.' He doesn't know why he likes Jackie, but Jackie knows the answer. Jackie knows what many, many Negroes know, but some don't care enough about to apply, that by ignoring many bitter acts and words, by often hearing and not hearing, by listening instead of talking is the correct procedure to win Southern friends.

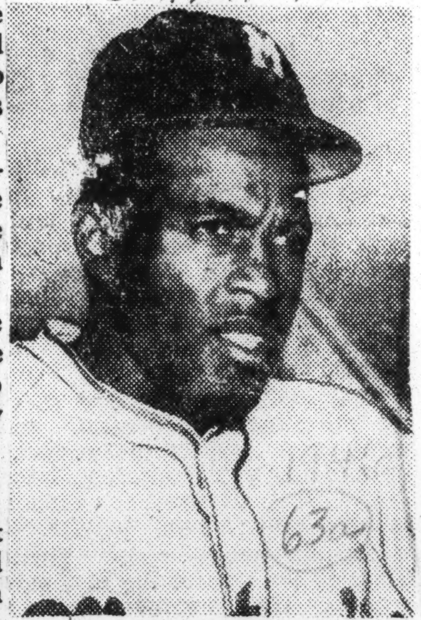
It's not that we accuse Robinson of knuckling to win favor. No. We are sure that he would never do this, but he had and has one objective and he had and has the intelligence to follow through.

Texas Tatum does not understand this. All he can see is that Robinson is a mannerly fellow. And he is awfully affraid that in all the world there is not another Negro he can approve of as he does Jackie.

We approve of Robinson's action, but are somewhat sorry for Mr. Tatum.

Batting King

Afro-Amer.-Baltimore, Md. Sat. 1-11-47



Sat. **JACKIE ROBINSON** 1-11-47 **former UCLA athlete and one-time shortstop of the Kansas City Monarchs, who became officially recognized early this week as the 1946 International League batting champion. Playing with the title-winning Montreal Royals, Jackie swatted the pill for a .349 average, tied for honors for most runs scored, and was runner-up in the base stealing department, pilfering 40 sacks.**

Montreal Flash Captures Crown With .349 Average

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 9-14-46

Al Clark, White Newark Infielder, Second; Robbie Highest Run-Getter

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

Jackie Robinson, 26-year-old pioneer in organized baseball, crowned his first year of International League play with the winning of the batting championship here Sunday.

The former UCLA all-round athlete, who also led the league in number of runs scored and finished second in

Player and Club	G	AB	R	H	Pct.
J. ROBINSON, Montreal	124	444	113	155	.349
Clark, Newark	96	346	64	120	.346
Murtaugh, Rochester	138	535	70	174	.342
Brown, Newark	147	506	69	173	.339
E. Robinson, Baltimore	134	502	98	168	.322

stolen bases, banged the ball at a .349 clip, to better the mark of Al Clark, white Newark third baseman, who batted .346 for 96 games.

Had Clark edged Jackie for the title, he would not have been recognized as champion because the rules of organized baseball require that a player must compete in 100 games in order to win the batting crown. Robinson played in 124 contests.

Winning of the title climaxed two sustained drives by Robinson. He went to the top of the loop in mid-May and clung to the lead until a leg injury benched him and kept him out of training until the third week in June.

When Jackie returned to the lineup, he suffered a slump and did not regain his hitting stride until mid-July, when he went on a batting spree and skyrocketed to the top with a .371 average.

At one time during this sensational spurt, Robinson slammed out 19 hits in seven games and held the lead by 14 percentage points.

As was to be expected, Jackie taled off this terrific pace and in the late weeks of August he batted at an average of .309 for 13 games.

Given a much-needed rest following an ankle injury last week, Jackie returned to the Royal lineup on Sunday and rapped out two hits in eight tries, just enough to give him the insurance needed to outlast Clark and Rochester's Danny Murtaugh, white, who staged a brilliant last-minute rush for third place at .342.

Tops Scorers

Robinson, whose ability at the plate was a big question mark following his failure to hit in the Florida training camp, finished the season with three home runs, one of which he registered on the opening day of the campaign.

Included in his 155 hits were 25 doubles and eight triples.

As if winning the batting crown were not enough, Jackie also took down high honors in the runs scored department. He tallied 113 times for the season, beating out Ted Houck, white Toronto infielder, who counted 108 times while playing in 20 more games than Robinson. Marvin Rackley, Jackie's white teammate, was third in this department with 102 markers.

Rackley, incidentally, led Robinson in stolen bases. Jackie's 40 thefts for the season were good for second place behind Rackley's 62.

Winning of the batting crown and his all-round brilliance during the season virtually assures Robinson a tryout with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, although President Branch Rickey remains mum on the subject.

It is also quite likely that the Mahatma will hand the stellar Royal second sacker a sizeable bonus for his 1946 work.

Jackie Robinson

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

In the International League, Jackie Robinson, second baseman for the Montreal Royals, is in fourth place in the individual batting, according to the official statistics up to and including July 10. Eddie Robinson of Baltimore is in first place with .363. Elmer Durrett, Montreal, has scored the most runs, 65. Marvin Rackley, Montreal, has collected the most hits, 91, and stole the most bases, 46. *Sat. 7-20-46*

Robinson has played in 61 games, been to bat 215 times. He has made 76 hits and scored 60 runs. He has batted in 30 runs. Robinson has one homer to his credit, three triples and 13 two base hits. He has stolen 23 bases. His batting average is .354.

Roy Partlow, former Homestead Grays pitcher but who was bought by Branch Rickey from the Philadelphia Stars, isn't listed in the official pitching averages. To be listed a pitcher has to have five or more victories.

Montreal leads the league.

Robinson Batting at .365 Clip to Retain Top Spot

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Montreal Star Leads Newark's Clark, Baltimore's Eddie Robinson at Plate

Sat. 8-24-46

MONTREAL—Jackie Robinson obtained only one hit in eight official trips to the plate here in Sunday's doubleheader with Toronto, yet he held onto the lead in the race for the International League batting championship.

Robinson finished the Sabbath bill with an average of .365, a drop of six percentage points from the .371 clip at which he was hitting at the close of last week.

Jackie was batting .371 for 98 games while Clark's best was .362 for only 69 contests. Behind this pair came Eddie Robinson, white, of Baltimore, who lost a first-place duel with Jackie last week, at .343; Cherry Brown, Newark, who is hitting .330, and Robinson's local teammate, Tom Tatum with .325.

His inability to connect safely on Tuesday and Wednesday caused Jackie's average to drop considerably, although he is still setting the pace. Following Monday's tiff with the Baltimoreans, Robbie hadwidened his lead to 14 percentage points.

However, the Oriole pitchers, using "brush-off" tactics, halted him the next two days. On Tuesday, Stan West, Baltimore flinger, struck Jackie on the wrist on his second trip to the plate. Then on his next appearance at bat, Robbie was forced to "hit the dirt" as West threw close to him.

As a result of this West was soundly booed by the Montreal fans.

The Royal star began the week on top of the International League batters following a seven-day hitting spree which saw him chalk up 20 hits in nine games, including five doubles and four triples.

Jackie Also Leads Loop In Number of Runs

MONTREAL — Jackie Robinson, second base star of Montreal who is currently setting the pace in the batting championship, took over the lead in another department of the International League this week.

The Royal infielder is at the top in runs scored, having crossed the plate 100 times in 100 games.

Robinson is one tally head of Ted Houck, white of Toronto, who, with the advantage of having played in 23 games more than Jackie, has made a total score of 99 scores.

VERY LATEST

Batting

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE
(65 or more games)
(To and including Aug. 18 Game)

J. ROB'SON, Mon.	104	367	101	134	.365
Clark, Newark	76	270	51	96	.355
Brown, Newark	124	424	57	142	.334
E.Robinson, Balto.	111	419	81	140	.334
Tatum, Montreal	107	399	77	130	.326

Jackie Belts Homer, Three Singles as Royals Win 2

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 7-27-46

Montreal Star Goes on Hitting Spree as Club Widens League Lead to 15 Games

SYRACUSE, N.Y.—Jackie Robinson, though still suffering from a recurrent leg injury, took over the spotlight here Sunday as the Montreal Royals took a doubleheader from the Syracuse Chiefs 4-2 and 3-2, thus widening the margin of their lead in the International League pennant race to 15 games.

The former UCLA all-around star, in addition to handling 11 fielding chances without a flaw, belted a home-run wtih one man on base and collected three singles for a .500 average for the afternoon's work.

By banging out four safeties, Robinson ran his total for the season to 84 blows in 238 times at bat, which gives him a batting average of .356 for the season.

On top of this sparkling performance at the plate, Jackie stole a base, counted three tallies himself and figured in two dual killings.

TELLS BOB HOW JACKIE LED LEAGUE

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

AN OPEN LETTER

Sat. 9-21-46

Robert Feller,
c/o Cleveland Indians,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Bobby:

Last October you were quoted as saying that "you just couldn't forsee any future for Robinson in big league baseball." You also said something about Robinson not being able to hit inside pitches to save his neck.

Well, I'm sure you'll like to know that Jackie Robinson is the batting champion of the International Baseball League. And in his first year, too. By now you are well aware of his popularity as well as his ability. He finished off the season with an average of .349 and led the league in runs scored with 113. The pace-setting Robinson is the first Montreal batter to win the league's batting championship since 1908, when Jones won the crown with a .309 average. The highest previous average of a Royal was that of Snake Henry, who set a Royal record of .345 in 1930. Thus it makes Jackie the best batter to wear a Montreal uniform.

Robbie smashed 155 hits in 444 times at bat, five points ahead of Bobby Brown of the Newark Bears, his nearest rival. Among his 155 hits were 25 two-baggers, nine less than that of Eddie Joost of Rochester; eight triples, five less than Marvin Rackley's top 13. The star second-sacker also batted in 65 runs and stole 40 bases, and though official figures are not out on this department, he probably walked more times than any other batter in the loop.

As a pitcher, you must realize that your fellow hurlers must have tried various offerings on the gifted Robinson—including inside pitches. Seldom has Jackie failed to connect in some way. His strikeout record is one of the lowest in the league. He has them all.

You have one consolation, Bobby, you weren't the only one to call the Robinson shot wrong. In fact, very few were right. Those who knew the material Jackie is made off, never doubted that he would be right up there.

One of these is Clyde Sukeforth, Brooklyn's No. 1 coach and former manager of the Montreal Royals. When Jackie didn't look too promising during spring training, especially at the plate, "Sukey" was writing to friends that Robbie will come through. And that he did!

There were many sceptics who also talked and wrote about his football shoulders. Then Jackie started hitting. At least he was getting down to first base. The same seers said that it was not his ability at the plate but his fast running pace that was earning those hits for Jackie. The latter never said a word about that, never a complaint. Suddenly he became a power hitter, slamming out needed doubles, triples and a couple of times a homer.

You know about his fielding, Bob. How he changed from his natural shortstop spot into that of second baseman. They just told him that his throw was a bit short, and then there was Stan Breard, Montreal's own shortstop, who the previous season copped the all-star spot. Jackie went to second and within a short time became the sensation of the league on the middle sack.

Of the first ten ballots received in the International League offices on all-star selections, Robinson had nine votes as second sacker. The other named him for third, a position he has tackled only four times.

You know of his attraction at the gate. He's the Ted Williams and Bobby Feller (You see, we recognize talent) of the International League. You know, because you asked him to join your barnstorming troupe of baseballers. He declined because he will be touring with his own stars, including two Royals, Al Campanis and Marvin Rackley. Jackie helped Montreal set an attendance record at home and on the road. The turnstiles business upped to 412,756 paid, not including Ladies' Day, children or passes, at home, and as many on the road. With the playoffs, the Royals should hit the million mark. Not bad for a minor club.

This may sound like showing off. Well, Jackie is not the type.

And we in Montreal are very proud of him. The fans and sportswriters, even those who thought he wouldn't make good, are sure he'll make the grade in the majors. And if he doesn't, a record crowd would be on hand at the ball park to welcome him back here.

Robinson is the best bunter in the game today, some even go as far as rating him above the immortal Ty Cobb. According to Bruno Betzel, who managed the Royals last summer, and now handles the same job with Jersey city Little Giants, told Taylor Spink of the St. Louis Sporting News that Jackie is the best bunter in any league and also added his voice to the argument that he's better than Cobb. Spink reports Betzel, a Southerner, as saying, 'I would like having nine Robinsons. If I had one Jackie, I'd room with him myself and put him to bed nights to make sure nothing happened to him."

(Signed) SAM MALTIN,
The Montreal Herald.

Jackie Robinson's Team Beats Major Leaguers, 10-5

The Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 10-19-46

Jackie Robinson, second baseman for the Montreal Royals of the International League, and leading batting in that circuit, displayed his wares here Sunday afternoon at Comiskey park as his team trounced Hans Wagner's Major League All Stars, 10 to 5. Robinson will get a tryout with the Brooklyn Dodgers next spring.

Robinson, the first Negro to be signed by white organized baseball in nearly 50 years, played five innings at second and the last four as shortstop. He started three lightening double plays which brought forth a big round of applause each time. He was at the bat four official times, scored one run and made two hits, one of them a triple.

With Robinson were Marvin Rackley, white, leftfielder for the Montreal club and Al Campanis, white, shortstop of the Montreal team. Mike Nozinski, white, member of the Nashua, N. H. Dodgers of the New England League, relieved Ross Davis of the Boston Blues of the United States League. Davis pitched to two batters, in the sixth, walked both and was promptly flagged to the clubhouse by Robinson and Mike finished the game.

Roy Campanella, former catcher with the Baltimore Elite Giants and who caught the entire 1945 East vs. West game for the East nine, was the backstop for five innings. This season Roy caught for the Nashua, N. H. Dodgers.

From the Newark Eagles, Negro world champions, Robinson had Lenny Pearson, first base. Monty Irvin, who played centerfield, and Larry Doby, who started the game at third but moved over to second when Robinson shifted to short.

* * *

JOHN WRIGHT, formerly of the Negro National League and later with the Great Lakes Naval Training Station's Negro team hurled the first five innings for Robinson's team and was credited with the victory. Wright, also signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers, was sent to the Three Rivers club of the Canadian-American League after a short time with the Montreal team this summer.

Wagner's All Stars were selected from the Pittsburgh Pirates and Cincinnati Reds with George Susce, catcher for the Cleveland Indians. Pete Suder, shortstop for the Philadelphia Athletics, and Frank Zack of the Kansas City Blues also played with Wagner's outfit, as did Stan Ferrens, St. Louis Browns' pitcher. Wagner was once rated as the greatest shortstop in white baseball although John Henry Lloyd, then of the Bacharach Giants and later of the American Giants, under the late Rube Foster, was equal to Wagner in the minds of the fans who had seen both of them play. Lloyd now works for the school board in Atlantic City, N. J.

* * *

ROBINSON SCORED the first run of the game in the opening inning. With two out, he drew a walk. Irvin, Negro National League's leading batter, caught one on the nose for two bases to left and Robinson went from first base home, showing the fans why he was one of the Pacific Coast's best dash men while attending the University of California at Los Angeles.

Wright opened the third with a single and went to second when Ed Lukon errored in right field. Rackley popped to Suder but Robinson came through with a single to center scoring Wright.

A double by Campanella, singles by Pearson, Campanis and Tom Parker of the Boston Blues plus Suder's error on Rackley's grounder gave the Robinson team two runs in the fourth. The Major Leaguers tallied in their half of the same frame. Frank Gustin singled, Lukon walked and Sauer singled filling the sacks. Suder hit into a fast double play, Robinson to Campanis to Pearson, Guston scoring.

Campanis walked to start the sixth. Parker field to Sauer. sixth. Parker flied to Sauer. Scott singled to left. Rackley doubled scoring Campanis. Scott scored on a wild pitch. Robinson bunted and Rackley came home on what was about the finest squeeze play here since 1946.

* * *

WRIGHT LEFT the game and Ross Davis, who relieved him, walked the first two batters in the All Stars' half of the sixth. Mike Nozinski filled the bases by walking Lukon. Robinson to Doby to Scott doubled Lukon and Sauer with one run scoring. A walk to Suder and a single by Ed Miller with a passed ball sandwiched in between gave the All Stars two more and a total of three runs for the inning.

Scott singled in the eighth and came home on Robinson's triple to right. Robinson scored after Doby had flied out to Al Gionfriddo in center.

Joe Adkins' single and Dave Pope's triple produced the last Robinson team's run in the ninth. Pope was out when Campanell, a coaching at third, waved him home, and Gionfriddo's throw to Hanley was rifled home to Susce.

In the last half of the ninth, a walk to Ed Miller, Susce's single to left was followed by Bob Malloy being tossed out by Nozinski. Malloy, Cincinnati Reds, had relieved Stan Ferrens in the Robinson team's fourth with none out after Ferrens had given up four hits. Nozinski, with an easy out in his hands, pegged badly to Miller at first on Zack's grounder and Hanley crossed the plate. Nozinski tossed out Gustine. Gabe Patterson, who had relieved Rackley in left in the sixth, went back and gathered in Lukon's long drive in left and took the final out of the 1946 baseball season in Chicago.

Jackie Helps Team Reach 100 Victories

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 9-7-46

By SAM MALTIN

MONTREAL—The Montreal Royals came through with their century mark in the victory column by grabbing the last game of the regular schedule of the International Baseball League Sunday afternoon. They won the game, 4-3, after dropping the opener to the tune of 3-2, to Toronto Maple Leafs.

The pennant winners had a bad two weeks, with the team in its worst slump of the season and right now they are given little chance in capturing the post-season series for the Governor's Cup and entry into the Little World Series against the American Association champions.

Despite a private slump of his own which saw his .378 batting average go down to .351, Jackie Robinson was able to get through every game with a hit, though at times it was the only one in five trips to the plate. He is badly in need of a rest. The club doctor ordered him off the field for three days or more, but Caly Hooper, aiming for the 100-win mark, talked Jackie into playing in the Sunday doubleheader.

The play-offs get under way on Wednesday night, with the Royals against Baltimore or Newark. It will be the best of seven games.

Jackie Robinson Is "Model Ball Player, Says Columnist

The Informer Houston, Texas Sat. 8-24-46

JERSEY CITY— (ANP)— A trip to the Brooklyn Dodgers' Montreal farm recently by Red Smith sports columinist for the New York Herald Tribune and former ace of the Philadelphia Record's sports staff, brought the observation that Jackie Robinson, former UCLA halfback and currently an infielder with the Royals, is a "model ball player."

Smith reported that although Robinson jimmied an ankle during a slide to third base recently, he did, however, look good retrieving balls for the batting practice pitcher, and points to his short baseball record as being that of a big time leagurer. While he has been injured several times this season Robinson is the second batter in the International league with an average of .352, the second base stealer with 31 thefts and playing second base instead of shortstop the first time in his life, constituted one-half of the league's dextest double-play combination, and is regarded as the major attraction at home, or on the road.

The Royals' manager, Clay Hopper, declared, "I think he's a major leaguer. He goes hard all the time and he has great hands for an infielder. He seems a little frail, though. Gets hurt. Maybe because he goes so hard."

Since the beginning of the season, Robinson has not hit less than .330, although he is not a "powerful" hitter, legging out a good many hits and excelling at beating out bunts. He has a total of 106 hits to his credit, scoring 78 runs in 301 chances, with three triples, three home runs and 15 doubles. He has knocked in 44 runs.

In a recent Newark series, he doubled in the ninth to win one game, saved another with a driving catch of a low line drive near first base with bases filled; and doubled in the 10th to win a third game. Once he was caught in a run down on the baseline. His fast and shifting footwork kept him jockying safely until almost the entire Baltimore team got into the play. When he was finally retired, a full house in Montreal cheered as though for a home run.

Evades 2 Vicious Spiking Attempts

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 10-5-46

Goes Hitless, But Proves Power on Defense as Team Wins, Loses

By SAM LACY

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—(Exclusive)—Continued booing and hurling of epithets, and two obvious spiking attempts marked Kentucky's introduction to mixed organized baseball as the Montreal Royals and Louisville Colonels divided the first two games of the Little World Series here Saturday and Sunday.

Montreal won the opening battle, Saturday night, 7-5, and Louisville tok the second tilt Sunday afternoon, 3-0.

But the baseball competition was relegated to a role of minor importance as a majority of 24,128 fans concentrated on exhibiting a sectional disapproval of the presence of Jackie Robinson at second base in the visiting lineup.

From Lily-White Stands

The boos and epithets of course, came from the lily-white stands surrounding home plate and the infield. This hostile drowning reception so near to the playing field had little trouble drowning the scattered applause in its midst and the cheers of encouragement which tried vainly to reach Jackie's ears from the isolated "colored section," located at the extreme end of the covered stand, just inside the 345-foot marker on the rightfield wall.

The efforts to spike Robinson were made by Fred Walters, Mississippi-born catcher, and Frank Shofner, third-baseman from Texas.

Walters's attempt was made as he slid safely into second Saturday night when Jackie covered the base on a throw from the outfield. The burly backstopper drove in with spikes high but, fortunately, they merely grazed Robbie's knee and put him on guard for any future rough stuff.

Amateurish Attempt

Shofner's attempt was so obvious it was amateurish. It occurred in the first ining of the Sabbath game.

With Johnny Welaj, ex-Washington Senator, on third and Shofner on first with one down, Rightfielder Jim Bleeson rolled to Montreal Shortstop Al Campanis. Campanis flipped the ball to Jackie, but the latter was off balance as he received the throw and did not try to complete the double-play.

Had he not decided thus, the Royal second-sacker would undoubtedly have been hurt. For Shofner deliberately kicked his left foot int the path of Jackie's normal pivot, failing, in so doing, to bother about touching the base.

Jackie Robinson Is Batting Champion

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-21-46

Jackie Robinson, the former University of California at Los Angeles all-around athletic star and last year shortstop with the Kansas City Monarchs, has been crowned champion batter in the International League.

Robinson

Robinson, signed by Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers last fall for a tryout this spring with the Montreal Royals, thus exceeds Rickey's expectations. Jackie is the first Negro to be signed by major league baseball in nearly 50 years.

Making good in the spring tryouts in Daytona Beach, Fla., Robinson has played second base for the Royals and has been well received except in Baltimore. He finished the league season with a batting average of .349, five points better than Bobby Brown of Newark. Robinson was in 124 games, went to bat 444 times, made 155 hits, scored 113 runs, 25 of which were for two bases, eight were for three bases and three were homers. He batted in 65 runs and stole eight bases.

* * *

BROWN WAS in 148 games. He made 176 hits and scored 69 runs. He batted in 65 runs, stole four bases. Brown had 24 two-base hits, four triples and five homers.

The Montreal club won the International League pennant with 100 games won and 54 lost and a percentage of .649. The Royals finished 18½ games ahead of Syracuse. The team topped the league in fielding with .968 featuring 178 double plays most of them in which Robinson figured prominently. The team topped the league in batting having a .291 percentage.

The International League played to a total of 2,358,279 fans, an increase of 60 percent over last year's attendance. The attendance this year exceeds the 1928 total by 53 per cent.

Robinson will head a team of minor league all-stars which will play the major league all-stars at Comiskey Park on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 13. With Robinson will be four other Negroes signed this year by organized white baseball. They are Roy Campanella of the Nashua club and formerly with the Newark Eagles; John Wright, formerly with the Newark club and now hurler with the Three Rivers club of the Canadian-American League, and Ray Partlow, former hurler with the Philadelphia Stars, and now with the Three Rivers club. The Three Rivers club is a farm club of the Montreal Royals.

Psychology Plays Important Part in Rise of Jackie Robinson to Batting Stardom

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-17-46

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

Jackie Robinson uses the science of psychology just as much as he uses a bat in his quest of the International League batting championship in his first year of organized baseball.

This may sound a bit confused but it all adds up to simple figuring once you've put your mind to it.

The Montreal Royals' brilliant second baseman swings a potent stick. In addition, he boasts unusual speed afoot. He has learned that opposing players fear both, but they have a greater regard for his ability to step fast between the bases than for his ability to bang out safe hits.

The result is that Jackie Robinson combines his physical advantages of hitting and running with the enemy's mental hazards,

JACKIE ROBINSON

to enable him to rest atop the league's individual batters, as he is this week.

When Robinson comes to bat, opposing infielders are faced with the alternative of playing their normal positions midway of the dirt baselines, or moving in closer to the infield grass.

They know that if they "give him room," as the saying goes, and play him as they do other batters, Jackie will dump a bunt inside of them and beat the throw to first with his blazing speed.

On the other hand, these same infielders realize that if they "crowd him," which means moving in to guard against his bunting, the Royal versatile star will push the ball past them or hit it too hard for them to handle cleanly. And handle it cleanly they must for it is understood throughout the circuit that bobbling a ball on Jackie is fatal.

Even after Robinson has started on his way toward first base, there's no letup in the pressure o nthe opposition.

The outfielders are aware that they, too, must field all of Jackie's bingles without flaw and that they must get rid of the ball with dispatch and accuracy.

For woe be unto him who dallies when Robbie's on the basepaths. A moment's hesitation on the Montreal meteor and a single becomes a double, a double a triple.

While Jackie is an acknowledged speedster, he having done the century in 9.8 seconds during his collegiate days, it is the fact that he knows how to run the bases rather than that he runs them so swiftly. He knows that once he gets away from the plate, two men must handle the ball in order to tire him, and that neither of them can afford t o make a mistake.

This is especially true on his hits to the outfield. Robbie watches the fielder like a hawk and if that unfortunate worthy so much as drops his head, an extra base for the runner may be the result.

Perhaps you think I'm stretching it a bit when I say that. But if you stop to consider how many hair's breadth plays there are on Jackie on the baselines, it isn't hard to understand how a split-second's delay on the part of an opponent may have meant the difference in success and failure for Robinson's daring effort.

In the first place, the man covering the hit must take the ball in a position for throwing and then must fire it straight and true to the base ahead of Robbie.

And in the second place, the man receiving the toss from the outfield has the added responsibility of taking the peg with his back to the diamond and turning around quickly enough to tag what might easily be described as a sliding shadow. This is a difficult task in any man's chore, or isn't it.

And so it goes, the Royal rabbit moves along enjoying life in a league that looks every day as though it's going to graduate him after one year's course into faster company.

Too fast to be played conservatively, too dangerous to be toyed with and too smart not to be watched constantly, Jackie Robinson has nine men in a hole every time he comes to bat.

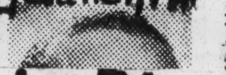
It's psychology, son, psychology!

Barber Shop Talk

Adding Up Jackie Robinson And Joe Stalin to Get a Negro In Major League Baseball

Pittsburgh Courier, PA

"HOW did the game come out?" the man in the next chair inquired. He was lying back in the barber chair, a steaming hot towel had just been removed from his face. He directed his question at the ceiling but apparently expected almost anyone in the room to answer him. He didn't have to wait long for a reply. The tall, dark brown, calm-faced barber on the front chair who was busy cutting my hair, answered. "Montreal won four to two."



Somewhat further down the room, a man in a postal clerk's uniform said, "That Jackie Robinson is sure going good now. He got two hits out of four times at bat."

Mr. Cayton

My neighbor to the right, who by now was sitting up getting his hair cut observed, "Yes, Jackie's burning up that International League. He's leading in batting, he's a good fielder, and I think he's got some kind of a record for stealing bases."

The man down in the center of the room observed quietly, almost as if he were thinking aloud and as if his wish might be defeated if stated too loudly, "I wonder what the chances are of his being called to the big leagues."

Sat 10-19-46

NO ONE spoke for a moment. There was a tense hush. This question had crystallized the hopes and expectations of many rabid Negro baseball fans—to see one of their own in the big leagues, an idol of the baseball world. In a sense it was almost as important as Joe Louis; another step toward acceptance by white Americans.

Suddenly the silence was broken by the calm, cool, deliberate voice of my barber. "It all depends on Joe," he stated with a positive firmness in his voice which did not admit of the slightest question or doubt. He repeated, "It all depends on Joe."

I didn't get it at first, and sat there puzzled. Now just who was Joe? I started to think that Joe was the name usually used to indicate the common man. People say, "Oh, he's just another Joe," and things like that. So I thought that perhaps the barber was trying to say that it's up to the common man. But I couldn't quite make that one fit.

Then I thought that perhaps Joe was the head of some big ball club—the Brooklyn Dodgers, for example. But I couldn't tell from the man's tone of voice that there was something behind it more important than just some ball club official. Then I tried to think of Happy Chandler, and wondered if his first name were Joe. I didn't think his mother had christened him Happy. But I finally gave up and inquired of my barber, "Joe who?" His answer was as direct as it was positive. "StaLEEN," he said.

* * *

WELL, THAT threw me completely off. Just what did Joe Stalin have to do with Jackie Robinson and whether he'd make the Brooklyn Dodgers? So after thinking a few minutes more, I said, "Look, friend, I can't tie those two things together. What has Joe Stalin got to do with Jackie Robinson and the Brooklyn Dodgers and the Montreal ball club?" My barber answered me kindly, patiently, and condescendingly in his deliberate, almost tired voice, "It's very simple, friend. As long as Russia is a threat to the United States, these white people are not going to push us around too bad. I suspect they might even give us a few breaks, like letting us play in the big leagues. But as soon as Russia isn't in a position to scare us, that little man from South Carolina will be able to give us all of his attention, just like he did before he was Secretary of State, and before there was a StaLEEN whom he hates even more than the Negro."

Well, there you have it. I'm not trying to say that the Russians will be the saviors of the Negro race, or that Communism is good or bad, or to assess whether the American Communists are trying to hoodwink the American Negro. All I'm telling you is what my barber told me. But I think it's awfully important to realize how the Negro is conceiving of his problem in terms of this global struggle, and how my barber has grasped some of the elements of their implications for himself, Negro people in general, and—and let's not leave this out—for Jackie Robinson specifically.

Changes Due On '47 Dodgers

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Sat. 10-5-46

By Lester Rodney

There'll be some changes made in the Brooklyn Dodgers by next opening day, and one of the most important ones is being pointed up by the tidings from the Little World Series in Montreal.

On Wednesday night Jack Robinson came up against Louisville in the 10th inning with the bases full, score tied and the Royals trailing in the Series, two games to one. Jack promptly cowtailed a single to left for the ball game. Thursday night he hit a single, double and triple to lead Montreal to another victory and put them a step closer to title of undisputed minor league champion.

Robinson, who finished the regular season as the batting champion of the International League, best fielding second baseman and best base runner, is the hottest man coming up from the minors and a sure thing for an infield berth with the Dodgers in '47.

Even had the Dodgers won the flag there were many changes due. The team that took the field against the Cards had only one .300 hitter in

the line-up, 36 year old Walker. Coming up from Montreal with Jackie will be Tom Tatum, a speedy, hard hitting young right handed outfielder, who should joint Dick Whitman behind a possible first trio of Walker, Reiser and Furillo.

Reese, Edwards, a healthy Reiser, Furillo, Robinson and to a lesser degree Stanky, are the bedrock foundation of youth and speed on which the '47 club will be built. The big "if" department is first base, where neither Stevens nor Schultz has proven himself a rounded out performer at bat. The pitching, wrapped around Higbe, Hatten, Branca (who should blossom out), a revived Gregg who may be ace of the staff, Behrman and the loop's best looking rookie hurlers, should be tops.

Jackie Robinson Proves Poison To Newark Bears

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

Sat. 8-17-46

NEWARK, N. J. — (NNPA) — Jackie Robinson, the Montreal Royal's star second baseman, proved poison to the Newark Bears in the series which ended recently.

He drove in the tying run and scored the wining tally in the first game of Tuesday's twin bill, which was won by Montreal, 3-2. And his expert defense around second accounted for several runs cut off.

He played errorless ball, accepting 25 chances in the series, and he had six runs in 13 trips to the plate, also walking six times and being hit by a pitched ball. Besides that he stole three bases.

Robinson, the former UCLA foot ball, track and baseball star, played baseball in Venezuela last winter "in order to get some professional experience," as he explains. He appears to be of major league caliber and if Branch Rickey, who sat in the stands throughout the series, thinks so, Robinson will be a Brooklyn Dodger in 1947.

Replies to Mr. Wells

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

In writing about Jackie Robinson, it seems to me that Mr. Wells ignored several facts. Maybe, he doesn't know that Jackie, regardless of criticism, made a name in baseball this season; he was one of the most outstanding players and had one of the highest batting averages on his team. With these things in mind why shouldn't those Negro fans "come to gloat over him"? He deserves praise, whether Mr. Wells thinks so or not. Maybe those fans who don't want to see Negroes and whites play together are afraid the Negro will get too much credit.

On nearly every ball team, or any sport where Negroes are used, you will find they have been outstanding and a credit to the team. Does that prove they are behind in aptitude or does that prove that they just aren't given a chance by people like Mr. Wells? Just because the face is black doesn't mean a man is unintelligent, lacks culture or is behind in aptitude, and because the face is white doesn't mean he possesses all the things Mr. Wells states that the Negro lacks. It is a mistake to judge the majority by the minority, or does Mr. Wells ignore the fact that there are a great number in his race who are ignorant, uncultured and have no aim for higher ideals and we could judge the whites by that group if we wanted to be unfair to those that are proving themselves worthy of praise?

Our boys fought beside the whites and I'm sure they can work with them to make this country a democracy so that every one will have a chance for the better things.

B. STEWART.

Lexington, Ky. Fri. 11-8-46

Similar views are expressed in letters from T/Sgt. L. D. Taskett of Fort Knox, Ky., Miss Esther McAfee and Katherine Guinee of Louisville.—(Editor.

Montreal Second-Sacker Six Percentag Points Behind League's Leading Batter

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-10-46

Former Monarch Star Holds Clincher Margin in Race for Runner-up Spot

NEW YORK—Jackie Robinson, stellar second baseman of the Montreal baseball team, is in second position among the top individual batters of the International League, according to statistics released here last week by the Al Munro Elias Baseball Bureau.

Jackie's Batting Average

Games	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	PCT.
83	293	76	103	15	3	3	44	31	.352

The former UCLA and Kansas City Monarch star is only six percentage points off the pace-setting Eddie Robinson, Baltimore Oriole first baseman, and well in front of all other logical contenders for the runner-up position.

For 83 games played to August 3, Jackie was belting the ball at a .352 clip, having obtained 103 hits in 293 times at the bat.

Eddie Robinson took the lead last week with an average of .358 for 90 games. Jackie, however, led Danny Murtaugh of the Rochester Redwings, the third place batter, by a comfortable margin. Murtaugh is credited with an average of .331 for 93 contests.

Second in Base-stealing

In addition to continuing his torrid pace at the bat, Robinson remains second in the race for the league's base-stealing honors. He is headed in this department only by his teammate, Marvin Rackley, centerfielder.

Rackley and Robinson were staging a nip-and-tuck battle, with first one leading and then the other, until the latter suffered a leg injury in late May and was forced to idle for 26 days. Rackley then shot to the front.

Marvin is now abed with influenza but his lead is regarded safe as he has registered well over 50 sacks pilfered.

In last week's series against Newark, Jackie combined a bit of spectacular fielding with timely hitting to assume personal responsibility for two Montreal victories, both at 3-2.

Saves Game

On Tuesday, he made a sensational diving catch of a drive over second to choke off the final out and halt a Newark rally in the ninth, and on Wednesday he collaborated with Tom Tatum to send in the winning runs in the tenth after his teammates had knotted the count at 2-all in the ninth. Tatum repped a two-baser to left and Robbie duplicated to send Tatum scurrying across the plate with the deciding tally.

After idling in Jersey City as the Royals lost, 5-1, on Saturday, Robinson returned to the Royal lineup for the Sabbath double-header at Syracuse and contributed one hit in three times at bat in each game, one of these being a double and the other knocking in two scores.

He also fielded flawlessly and stole a base in the nightcap. Montreal defeated the Chiefs, 9-5 and 7-1.

DEMOCRACY IN BASEBALL

The Defender

Rickey Lauds Jackie Robinson

Chicago, Ill.

By FAY YOUNG

Sat. 6-29-46

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—"Any man who was good enough to wear the uniform of a commissioned officer in the United States army was entitled to earn his living by playing baseball, providing he had the ability," said Branch Rickey Sr., president of the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball club and first man to sign a Negro player into organized baseball, in an exclusive interview with the Chicago Defender Friday.

This statement was made just nine months after Rickey had made his precedent shattering move to break the color line in organized baseball by signing Jackie Robinson to a contract last October and ordering him to report to the Montreal camp in Daytona Beach, Fla., in March.

The dynamic head of the Brooklyn club, in first place at the time of the interview, took Robinson on as second baseman of the Montreal Royals, a farm club of the Dodgers. The Montreal club is in first place in the International Circuit. Robinson is leading the league batters as this is written, although he had been forced out of the lineup for over a week because of a charley horse.

Asked whether Negro players, who are ready for major league baseball, would be given an opportunity, Rickey looked the questioner straight in the face. "What do you think about it?" he asked. "Answer that question yourself," he went on, "I have answered it long ago. In fact, it s an unnecessary question.

"Yes, they'll be given an opportunity," he concluded.

This means that Jackie Robinson, now playing great ball with the Montreal club may be called by the Dodgers near the close of the season and also means that Robinson may be the first Negro in 50 years to break into major league pastime.

Rickey was asked if five Negro players signed by him had disappointed him in any respect or had they lived up to his expectations.

His answer was: "Some have lived up to expectation. Some have not. From the standpoint of character, poise, all have made good. Jackie Robinson has exceeded my expectation of him. Some other players have been sent to lower clubs for further preparation."

After the signing of Robinson, who played shortstop for Kansas City Monarchs in 1945, and John Wright, pitcher, who had been with the Great Lakes Naval training station that year, Rickey said he received thousands upon thousands of letters. They approved his move about 20 to 1. Of course some of those against his democratic move were abusive and bitter—the kind that would be expected from a KKK member who would throw a burning torch into an innocent man's home or one who would lead a lynch mob.

FEPC Law Cited Defender

New York state has a Fair Employment Practice law known as the Quinn-Ives law. Many fans have been under the impression that Rickey signed the first two of the five Negroes he put under contract to get around this law. Asked if the Quinn-Ives law had anything to do with his move in signing Negro players, Rickey's answer was "no." "For two years previous to the passing of this law, the Brooklyn baseball club was scouting Negro players." He intimated this scouting had cost the Brooklyn club thousands of dollars each year.

Later, Rickey hinted that Brooklyn might sign some more Negro players. It all depends upon what report his scouts bring back. "Believe you will recall my being quoted as having said if a pink elephant or some such thing could play the brand of baseball needed for my club, I'd sign him. Well I meant just that." Chicago, Ill.

Montreal Club Pleased

Rickey had just finished a long conference with Mel Jones, business manager of the Montreal club. Jones said Montreal was pleased with Robinson's performances. "We treat him like any other player," Jones added. "By that I mean we make no effort to do anything for Robinson because he is a Negro. We treat him like we treat our other ball players and see that he gets such treatment."

Sat. 6-29-46

Rickey was born in Lucasville, in the southern part of Ohio near the Ohio river. He attended Ohio Wesleyan university and the University of Michigan.

Other players signed besides Robinson and Wright have been Roy Partlow, bought from the Philadelphia Stars of the Negro National League and sent to the Montreal club when Wright was assigned to the Three Rivers team of the Canadian-American league; Don Newcombe, pitcher who was with the Newark Eagles of the Negro National league, and Roy Campanella, catcher of the Baltimore Elite Giants, of the same league.

63a 1946

Jackie Robinson

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Hail Jackie as Royals' Greatest Keystoner of All Time

Sat. 9-7-46

MONTREAL—If one is to believe Lloyd McGowan, local baseball writer who has been following the Montreal Royals for many years, Jackie Robinson is the greatest second baseman this town's club has ever seen!

In a brief evaluation of the Royals following their acquisition of the 1946 International League pennant last week, McGowan said just that.

Beginning with the catching department and then going over the pitchers, McGowan took up the 1946 infield as compared to the defenses of previous Royal pennant winners in 1898, 1935 and 1945. He said:

". . . It would be Paul Campbell as the choice over Les Burge at first, **but Jackie Robinson is the Royal keystone king of all time!"**

This is not the first time Jackie has been paid high tribute for his performances here. Not long ago, Manager Clay Hopper declared, "I've never seen a better bunter than that Jack."

He was reminded that he had seen the redoubtable Heinie Mueller, one-time St. Louis Cardinal star, who has been rated one of the best through the years. Hopper's reply was: "Robinson is a real artist."

Jackie has held the admiration of local fans throughout the season. Since opening day here when a crowd of 16,133 greeted his first appearance at the place with a tremendous ovation, Robinson has been the fair-haired lad of the league champions.

Much of this popularity is due to the fact that Robbie is constantly coming up with something new.

The other day, for instance, he was trapped in a run-down between third base and home by Bobby Thompson, Jersey City third baseman. In the chase, Jackie permitted Thompson to almost catch up to him, then went into a football roll as the Jersey infielder pitched over him. Robbie regained his feet and also regained his base.

That the high regard for Robinson is well-nigh unanimous is seen in the fact that Mel Jones, secretary of the Royals, joined Hopper and McGowan in praising the former UCLA athlete.

Commenting on Jackie's potentialities as a major league player, Jones said:

"He's leading the league in batting, he'll be a great major league star, and Branch Rickey will give him his chance. What can't he do but eat in the dining room of the Waldorf? He bunts better than 90 per cent of big league players and runs better than 75 per cent."

centerfielder.

Rackley and Robinson were staging a nip-and-tuck battle, with first one leading and then the other, until Robinson suffered a leg injury in late May and was forced to idle for 26 days. Rackley then shot to the front.

Marvin is now abed with influenza but his lead is regarded safe as he has registered well over 50 sacks pilfered.

In last week's series against Newark, Jackie combined a bit of spectacular fielding with timely hitting to assume personal responsibility

JACKIE ROBINSON

for two Montreal victories, both at 3-2.

SAVES GAME

On last Tuesday, he made a sensational diving catch of a drive over second to choke off the final out and halt a Newark rally in the ninth, and on Wednesday he collaborated with Tom Tatum to send in the winning runs in the tenth after his teammates had knotted the count at 2-all in the ninth. Tatum rapped a two-baser to left and Robbie duplicated to send Tatum scurrying across the plate with the deciding tally.

After idling in Jersey City as the Royals lost, 5-1, on Saturday Robinson returned to the Royal lineup for the Sabbath double-header at Syracuse and contributed one hit in three times at bat in each game, one of these being a double and the other knocking in two scores.

He also fielded flawlessly and stole a base in the nightcap. Montreal defeated the Chiefs, 9-5 and 7-1.

Jackie Robinson 2nd Top Batter In Loop With .352

Jackie Robinson, star second-sacker of the Montreal Royals, and the first of five Negroes to crack organized baseball this year, is the second highest batter in the International League with a stunning .352 average.

Up to and including the Aug. 3 game; the former U. C. L. A. athlete was only six percentage points behind Eddie Robinson, slugging first-baseman of the Baltimore Orioles.

For 83 games played to August 3, Jackie was belting the ball at a .352 clip, having obtained 103 hits in 293 times at the bat.

Eddie Robinson took the lead last week with an average of .358 for 90 games. Jackie, however, led Danny Murtaugh of the Rochester Redwings, the third place batter, by a comfortable margin. Murtaugh is credited with an average of .331 for 93 contests.

SECOND IN BASE-STEALING

In addition to continuing his torrid pace at the bat, Robinson remains second in the race for the league's base-stealing honors. He is headed in this department only by his teammate, Marvin Rackley,

Jackie Sparks 'Stars'

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Here's how that history-making tour between the Jackie Robinson mixed All-Stars versus Honus Wagner's major leaguers is coming along:

The Wagners won the barnstorming opener, 10-4, at Cincinnati, but Robinson's mixed crew came back with a 6-4 triumph in the second game—aided no little by Jackie's three hits which produced two tallies. *Sat. 10-19-46*

Several days later, at Chicago, the Robinson All-Stars won another, 10-5. Johnny Wright, Negro star of the Three Rivers club of the Canadian-American League, twirled the first five innings and was credited with the victory. Robinson got two out of four in that shindig, one of them a scorching triple down the right field line. He handled eight chances in the field and started three breath-taking double plays.

Jackie played six innings at his old shortstop position (the slot he used to hold down with the Kansas City Monarchs), and then moved over to second base—the position he worked at so brilliantly this past season for the champion Montreal Royals.

Roy Campanella, the fine Negro catcher of the Nashua Dodgers, the Brooklyn farm team in the New England League, caught for the Robinson All-Stars and also had himself a nice day at bat with two hits, one of them a line-drive double.

The Robinson All-Stars includes Jackie's two white teammates from Montreal—shortstop Al Campanis and outfielder Marvin Rackley. On the same team are these stars from the Negro leagues: Larry Doby, Lennie Pearson and the highly touted Monte Irvin—all from the Newark Eagles.

The Wagner major leaguers h on its roster Frankie Gustine a Al Gionfriddo, of the Pittsbu Pirates; Hank Camelli, of Braves; Joe Beggs, Eddie Lu Bob Malloy and Eddie Miller, the Cincinnati Reds; Stan Fer of the Browns; Pete Suder, of Athletics, and Hank Sauer, Syracuse.

No Bars for Jackie If Royals, Colonels Meet

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md
Sat. 9-21-46

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The question of race will "definitely not" come up if the Montreal Royals and the Louisville Colonels survive their respective playoff series to become opponents in the 1946 Little World Series, the AFRO was assured this week.

President Bruce Dudley of the Colonels, said on Monday that the color of Jackie Robinson, star second baseman of the Royals, "will have no bearing" if the series should bring Montreal and her stellar infielder to this city.

"I understand Jackie is a fine character and a crackerjack ball player," Dudley told the AFRO, "and I am sure the Louisville club will be not the least bit interested in his race. This question will definitely not come up."

The Colonels' president was queried by the AFRO when it was discovered that Louisville had already eliminated St. Paul and was in the finals of the American Association playoffs. The Kentuckians must now meet the winner of the Indianapolis-Minneapolis series for the right to play the International League winner in the Little World Series.

Montreal, on the other hand, is tied at 2-2 in her elimination battle with Newark, the winner of which will oppose the Syracuse-Baltimore victor in the International League finals.

relaxation of field manager Bruce Dudley's hard and fast seating rules which limits Negro attendance to 446 by quota.

A week ahead of time, however Dudley made it clear that no arrangements were made to accommodate the Negro overflow. Said he: "We're making no chances whatever . . . We're going to run this ballgame just like we've run every one in the 8 years I've been here, and since the park's beginning in 1902. (This last is a misstatement: Before last year Negroes were screened off in the outfield; now they are accommodated 8 rows behind a reserved-for-white section in the grandstand.)

When asked if Robinson would be housed with the rest of the Royals, Dudley demurred, said accommodations for visiting teams were handled through other channels.

Jackie and Mates In Hectic Playoff Series

NEWARK—Jackie Robinson, 1946 International League batting champion, tried valiantly but vainly to give Montreal her third victory in the International League playoffs here Sunday, he and his mates failing one run short of deadlocking the score with a ninth-inning rally.

As a result, the Newark Bears evened the series with the Royals at two games apiece, winning a 3-2 decision.

Robinson led off the final frame with a double as he and his mates attempted to overhaul a 3-0 Newark lead. He scored on Al Campanis's double, but the Bears retired the next three batters.

Jackie batted in three runs while banging out three hits in four times at bat in the opening. The Royals, meanwhile, won the first two games, 7-5 and 2-1. They dropped the second two, 4-0 and 3-2.

Winner of the International League playoffs will engage the survixing team in a similar elimination series in the American Association in the Little World Series.

Louisville leads in the American Association, with Minneapolis and Indianapolis batting it out to oppose the Kentuckians in the AA finals.

JACKIE'S BATTING IN PLAYOFFS

G	AB	R	H	2B	RBI	SB	Pct.
4	14	2	14	2	3	0	.286

Robinson wins for Royals in 10th in Little World series

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.
Sat. 10-5-46

ST. LOUIS — Jackie Robinson saved the Montreal Royals' skin last Wednesday night in the fourth game of the Little World Series here at Sportsman park, and put them back in the running in a two-game-all tie with Louisville Colonels.

In the overtime 10th inning, Robinson singled with the bases loaded to bring in the winning run for a 6-5 Royal victory. This climaxed a long, uphill pull for the International League champs.

League-leading batter Robinson's appearance here has caused some hard feelings between the Negro fans and the park's management. They had hoped for a

Jackie Robinson Stars In Series With Newark '9'

The Weekly New Orleans, La.
Sat. 8-10-46

Newark, N. J., August 5—(NNPA)—Jackie Robinson, the Montreal Royals' star second baseman, proved poison to the Newark Bears in the series which ended last Wednesday.

He drove in the tying run and scored the winning tally in the first game of Tuesday's twin bill, which was won by Montreal, 3-2. And his expert defense around second accounted for several runs cut off.

He played errorless ball, accepting twenty-five chances in the series, and he had six runs in thirteen trips to the plate, also walking six times and being hit by a pitched ball. Besides that he stole three bases.

Robinson, a former UCLA football, track and baseball star, played baseball in Venezuela last winter "in order to get some professional experience," as he explains. He appears to be of major league caliber and if Branch Rickey, who sat in the stands throughout the series, thinks so, Robinson will be a Brooklyn Dodger in 1947.

In this corner

Sundry Sports Shots for One and All

By Bill Mardo

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 7-10-46

Jackie Robinson, back in action these past two weeks after an ankle injury had laid him up awhile, is hitting that ball with a vengeance—something which should come as no great surprise because that's just what the Montreal Royals' second sacker has been doing all season. Right now Jackie is belting the ball at a .356 clip, only two points behind league leader Dixie Howell—who's played only half the amount of games that Robbie has this year.

JACKIE ROBINSON

The immensely popular Negro infielder has already earned the fond nickname of "The New Babe Ruth," a sobriquet pinned onto him by the Canadian fans who are wild over Robbie. Of course, the monniker is more a label of affection, for there was only one Babe Ruth and, besides, Robinson doesn't shoot for those circuit clouts. He's of the line-drive, pull-hitter type, and the sharpness of his blows plus his great speed afoot has given Jackie a fair share of extra base bingles. Of the 57 hits he's collected, ten have been doubles and three went for triples.

Jackie's teammate, outfielder Marvin Rackley, is the league's top base-stealer, having picked up a considerable lead while Robbie was on the shelf. But believe me, you've got to watch him on those base paths to really appreciate Dodger scout Clyde Sukeforth's contention that "Robinson is the greatest base runner I've ever seen."

Robbie and shortstop Al Campanis have teamed up for so many twin killings that the statisticians have a full-time job on their hands trying to record those d.p.'s.

All of which strengthens the general belief that Branch Rickey is going to bring Jackie up to Brooklyn next season.

And if you'll pardon a bit of immodesty, this writer feels particularly proud of the fact that he was one of the very, very few scribes in Florida at the time of Jackie's tryouts who thought he'd hit the International League pitchers—and hit them hard. . . . And he is, y'know.

Knuckling *The Defender Chicago, Ill.*

JACKIE ROBINSON, first colored athlete in modern times to break into the baseball big leagues, has made good. He led the Montreal team of the International League to its first league championship, and led the league in batting. In the Little World Series where Montreal won its first championship from Louisville of the Southern League, he was superb. Louisville fans booed him and Louisville players deliberately tried to spike him on base slides, but he just grinned and drove in runs. In the fourth and fifth games he was practically a one man team. When it was all over, teammates and fans lifted him high on shoulders and paraded around.

Sat. 11-2-46

Management of the Brooklyn Dodgers (Montreal is a subsidiary of the Dodgers) said the only reason he was not brought up to aid the Dodgers in beating off the last ditch challenge of the successful Cardinals was that it would have ruined Montreal's chances for a championship.

And yet—here we go again—when an official league photo was taken of Montreal players, only white players were grouped in the balanced formation. The front row was seated, the back row standing just behind the chairs. Away out on one end, not near any player, the only player not behind the chairs, and throwing the picture out of balance, stood Jackie. The background is plain and our photographer friends say it is child's play to simply blot Jackie off if you want to print the picture without him. And that is exactly what happened when Montreal pictures appeared in Southern papers. Next year we expect to see Jackie in the middle of the Montreal, or maybe the Dodgers players.

Attention, Clay Hopper

Afro American Sat 5-4-46

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE MANAGER OF THE MONTREAL ROYALS

Baltimore, Md

(AN EDITORIAL)

Dear Sir: As I understand it, the managers of baseball teams are anxious to win every game they can, particularly in organized ball, where the outcome of one contest may mean the winning or losing of a league pennant.

Having been associated with baseball in every conceivable phase, I know it to be the case that the man in charge of a club gets mighty peeved when one of his players commits a blunder or fails to match par. And I know that, while in this peeve, he feels relief in nothing else but blowing off steam.

With your club this year is Jackie Robinson, the first lad of his race to win a trial with an organized minor or major league team. He is human regardless of the color of his skin. And, being human, he'll have "good" days and "bad" days.

Sat 5-4-46

Hell 'have moments like that triumphant opening when he became a hero before 30,000 patrons and won smiles and pats on the back from you. But he'll also have moments like Sunday's in Baltimore, where 25,000 fans saw him boot away the your second game with the Orioles of that city.

You, like Jackie, are on the spot, if for no reason than that you come from a section of the country that is generally regarded as hostile to Robinson's people.

The AFRO appreciates your position the same as it understands Jackie's, and it is for that reason I take this opportunity to make this observation.

Jackie muffed an easy putout at second base in that second game, an error on a play that would have ended the inning in which the Orioles later scored five runs.

Another player would have been "bawled out" by you immediately the game was over, and I am hopeful you didn't "bend over backwards" in this case simply because it was Jackie.

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If you didn't give him hell, you should have.

Jackie's people don't want him treated any different from the rest.—SAM LACY.

Jackie Robinson's Letter Offers Help in Forming Boys' Ball League

The Call Kansas City, Mo

The Jackie Robinson Junior Baseball League has the blessings of the Montreal Royal's second baseman.

The Boys' hardball league is in the process of being formed in Kansas City for the benefit of youngsters 17 years old and under. Fri 5-17-46

Jackie Robinson is pleased to have the league bear his name and in the following letter to Ralph W. Brady, director of recreation at the Paseo Y.M.C.A., offers to help make baseball possible for Kansas City boys; Robinson's letter to Brady, dated May 3, follows:

Dear Sir: It is with great pleasure that I give you permission to use my name. To be honest I am highly flattered that you want to use it. If I can be of further service, don't hesitate to call upon me. Fri 5-17-46

I would certainly be interested in knowing of your progress, so please keep me informed if it is not too much trouble.

LOOKING 'EM OVER

Afro American Baltimore, Md Sat 5-11-46

With SAM LACY

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It is quite possible that being here and seeing Robinson and John Wright going about their chores as baseball players without the brand of oddities, watching the former cheered when he does well and chided when he flubs, the same as any other athlete in any other sport, I am deluded into thinking the time is not far off when players of his race will be commonplace on diamonds of organized baseball.

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Unquestionably, Robinson and the sport which after a long and contemptible delay has employed him, stand as the key hopes in the discovery, some day, of the utopia of true democracy. Sat 5-11-46

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Whenever intra-club squabbles arose, whenever criticism of team policy or second-guessing of Manager Clay Hopper has been indulged in, Robbie has discreetly and admirably kept his mouth shut.

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And I believe that his "Ray" will do much to help him keep his feet on the ground while traveling with his head in the clouds. A sensible girl, I've heard her sympathize with him and I've heard her chastise him, as the need demands.

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6-4-46

And according to Sporting News, Montreal manager Clay Hopper had declared that he hadn't seen anybody around the league who could outplay Robinson at second base. This was quite a tribute to Jackie, who had never played second base until several months ago—all his previous baseball experiences having been gained at the shortstop slot.

By the time Montreal had completed its first home stand last week, Robinson's fine play and all-out hustle had made him a favorite with Montreal fandom. Robinson had stolen 17 bases in 36 games, the second best base-theft mark in the league. He was still in the select .340 batting class, with 43 hits in 124 trips to the plate. N.Y. N.Y.

Particularly impressive was Jackie's fielding. In 20 home games, Robinson was guilty of only two misplays. Few players, according to the Sporting News dispatch from Montreal, have shown better form in pivoting on double-plays. During the home stand, Robinson's adeptness at this art helped account for the 32 twin killings which Montreal racked up in 20 starts. 6-4-46

So for Jackie Robinson, who is making good in a big way, the grandstand chant around the International League circuit has been: "Glad to have you with us."

Jackie's Errors Fatal to Montreal in Baltimore

Afro American Sat 5-4-46 Baltimore, Md

Drops Third Out and Paves Way for Oriole Win After Scoring Winning Run in Opener

Sat 5-4-46

BALTIMORE — The terrific pressure under which Jackie Robinson, Montreal second baseman, has been playin[g] finally caught up with him here Sunday as the league-leading Ba[…] [Bal]timore Orioles took the second game of a double-header, largely because of two errors he committed.

Dropping an easy putout at second base in the nightcap, Robinson paved the way for the Orioles to take a 6-3 decision and thus paved the way for the Orioles to take a 6-3 decision and thus amend for a 5-4 Montreal victory in the first affair.

Robinson's miscue, however, was something of an anti-climax, as it was he who scored the Royals' winning run in the opening game and it was his work afield which saved two of his mates from being charged with errors in the same contest.

Loses Double Play

The fatal miscue occurred in the [fi]fth inning of the losing game. [C]overing the bag on a three-and-[t]wo pitch to Frank Skaff, Oriole [cl]ean-up batter, Jackie had a dou[b]le play within his grasp as Catch[er] Herman Franks whipped the ball to hi[m] ahead of Soup Campbell. Robinson, instead of playing the third out safely, was bent on watching Al Cihocki, who was perched on third and threatening to go home on the play. As a consequence, when Campbell slid into the bag Jackie dropped the ball. Baltimore then proceeded to tally five runs and overhaul a 3-1 lead, set up by the Royals in the initial frame.

Stars in Opener

In the third inning of the game, Robinson bobbled an easy roller off the bat of Eddie Robinson, local first-baseman, and a few minutes later the runner crossed the pan on a hit by Joe Mellendick.

This second game performance, however, was quite different from that he turned in for the Royals in the matinee frolic. In that battle, an uphill affair, Robinson figured prominently in the defense, in addition to scoring the deciding run. Sat 5-4-46

In the third, he pivoted beautifully on a lightning-like double play to choke off an Oriole threat, taking the throw from John Jorgenson to retire Bob Repass and whipping the ball to First Base[man] Les Burge to complete the dual killing.

Saves Mates

In the fourth, he speared Stan Bread's wild throw with his bare hand while covering first on an Oriole sacrifice attempt, thus sav[i]ng his shortstop teammate a mis[c]ue. And in the fifth, he rushed [ov]er, retrieved ball fumbled by [Pitcher Les Bu]rge, and in a scooping toss got [it] to Pitcher Barney DeForge in [ti]me to retire Eddie Robinson. He handled five chances cleanly, [th]en produced a timely single in […]

Jackie Robinson

Attention, Clay Hopper

Afro American Sat 5-4-46

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Afro American Sat 5-4-46, Baltimore, Md

Drops Third Out and Paves Way for Oriole Win After Scoring Winning Run in Opener

BALTIMORE — The terrific pressure under [illegible] Montreal second baseman, has been playing [illegible] finally caught up with him [illegible] Sunday as the league-leading Ba[illegible]

[illegible]timore Orioles took the second game of a double-header, largely because of two errors he committed.

Dropping an easy putout at second base in the nightcap, Robinson paved the way for the Orioles to take a 6-3 decision and thus paved the way for the Orioles to take a 6-3 decision and thus amend for a 5-4 Montreal victory in the first affair.

Robinson's miscue, however, was something of an anti-climax, as it was he who scored the Royals' winning run in the opening game and it was his work afield which saved two of his mates from being charged with errors in the same contest.

Loses Double Play

The fatal miscue occurred in the fifth inning of the losing game. Covering the bag on a three-and-two pitch to Frank Skaff, Oriole clean-up batter, Jackie had a double play within his grasp as Catcher Herman Franks whipped the ball to hi mahead of Soup Campbell.

Robinson, instead of playing the third out safely, was bent on watching Al Cihocki, who was perched on third and threatening to go home on the play. As a consequence, when Campbell slid into the bag Jackie dropped the ball.

Baltimore then proceeded to tally five runs and overhaul a 3-1 lead, set up by the Royals in the initial frame.

Stars in Opener

In the third inning of the game, Robinson bobbled an easy roller off the bat of Eddie Robinson, local first-baseman, and a few minutes later the runner crossed the pan on a hit by Joe Mellendick.

This second game performance, however, was quite different from that he turned in for the Royals in the matinee frolic. In that battle, an uphill affair, Robinson figured prominently in the defense, in addition to scoring the deciding run.

In the third, he pivoted beautifully on a lightning-like double play to choke off an Oriole threat, taking the throw from John Jorgenson to retire Bob Repass and whipping the ball to First Baseman Les Burge to complete the dual killing.

Saves Mates

In the fourth, he speared Stan Breard's wild throw with his bare hand while covering first on an Oriole sacrifice attempt, thus saving his shortstop teammate a miscue. And in the fifth, he rushed over, retrieved ball fumbled by Burge, and in a scooping toss got it to Pitcher Barney DeForge in time to retire Eddie Robinson.

He handled five chances cleanly, [illegible]

the ninth with his team trailing, 5-4, to reach first. He later scored on Red Durrett's triple to right center.

Acrowd of 25,306 paid customers were among the estimated 29,000 who watched the Sunday bill. This figure, added to the 2,500 who saw Saturday night's chilly contest, brought to 85,983 the total number before whom Jackie has played since the season began on April 18. *Sat 5-4-46*

Saturday Debut

Robinson marked his initial appearance here Saturday evening with one hit in four times at bat, as his team bowed to the Orioles, 17-7, in frigid weather.

On the two other occasions, he flied out and reached second base after rapping a hard hit ball to center field which the Orioles' Mellendick dropped. He later scored from this position.

Robinson figured in the lone double play pulled by Montreal, handled three chances in the field without error and got himself a stolen base before leaving the game with a pulled leg muscle.

Wright Hurls

This game also saw the first appearance here of Montreal's John Wright, former Homestead Gray pitching ace.

Wright went to the mound in the sixth frame and finished the game after two other Royal flingers had been knocked out of the box.

He fanned three Orioles, walked two and gave up no hits.

However, the damage had been done before he entered the game, as far as Montreal was concerned. The Orioles had scored in the first, third, fourth and fifth innings and had collected four runs in the sixth for their total of 12, when Wright took the mound with one out and men on first and third.

He came out of the hole when the Orioles' Cihocki went out on an attempted steal home and the batter, Ward, flied out.

While the crowd mostly was pro-Baltimore, the hit and base-steal of Robinson, and Wright's three strike-outs drew many shouts of approval.

FIRST GAME

MONTREAL	ab.r.h.o.a.	ORIOLES	ab.r.h.o.a.
Rackley,cf	4 2 3 0 0	Cihocki,2b	5 1 1 1 1
Robinson,2b	4 1 1 4 4	Campbell,lf	4 1 1 3 0
Durrett,rf	5 1 3 1 0	Ward,rf	4 2 1 1 0
Gall'her,lf	4 0 1 2 0	Skaff,3b	4 1 1 0 3
Burge,1b	3 0 0 12 1	Mellendick,cf	4 0 0 1 0
Jorgenson,3b	3 1 1 1 2	Kohn,c	3 0 1 11 1
Breard,ss	4 0 1 1 2	Robinson,1b	3 0 0 8 0
Howell,c	4 0 1 7 3	Repass,ss	3 0 2 2 3
Deforge,p	4 1 1 1 2	Fost,p.	3 0 0 0 1
Shuba,lf	1 0 0 1 0	Hooks,p.	0 0 0 0 0
		xScheldt	1 0 0 0 0
Totals	38 6 12 27 14	Totals	34 5 7 27 9

xBatted for Hooks in ninth.

MONTREAL	000	020	022	—6
Orioles	000	200	030	—5

Errors—Skaff, Kohn (2), Rackley. Runs batter in—Skaff (2), Rackley (2), Breard, Howell, Mellendick, Kohn, Durrett (2). Two-base hits—Repass, Kohn. Three-base hits—Rackley, Durrett. Home runs—Skaff, Rackley. Stolen bases—Gallagher, Rackley, Durrett. Repass. Double plays—Jorgenson, Robinson, Burge.

Sat 5-4-46

SECOND GAME

MONTREAL	ab.r.h.o.a.	ORIOLES	ab.r.h.o.a.
Rackley,cf.	3 0 0 0 1	Cihocki,2b	4 1 1 3 3
Robinson,2b	3 0 0 2 3	Campbell,lf	2 2 1 1 0
Shuba,lf	3 0 0 0 0	Ward,rf	3 0 0 1 0
Durrett,rf	3 1 1 0 0	Skaff,3b	3 0 0 0 3
Burge,1b	3 1 2 8 1	Mellendick,cf	2 1 2 2 0
Jorgenson,3b	3 1 1 0 2	Murray,c	3 1 0 2 0
Franks,c	[illegible]	Kohn,c	[illegible]

Breard,ss	3 0 1 2 3	Robinson,1b	3 1 1 8 1
Kohn,p.	1 0 0 0 0	Repass,ss	2 0 1 1 1
Fontaine,p.	0 0 0 0 0	Barilliari,p.	3 0 1 0 1
zGallagher	1 0 0 0 0		
Totals	26 3 7 18 10	Totals	24 5 7 21 9

xBatted for Fontaine in seventh.

MONTREAL	030	0	000	—3
Orioles	001	0	50x	—6

Error—J. Robinson. Runs batted in—Franks (2), Mellendick, Murray, E. Robinson (2), Repass, Barilliari. Two-base hit—Barilliari. Three-base hit—Cihocki. Stolen base—Campbell. Sacrifice—Kohn. Double plays—Breard, Burge; Cihocki, Repass, E. Robinson.

Robinson Tops International League Batters

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-21-46

Jackie Robinson, former army lieutenant and one-time soldier buddy to Joe Louis, won top batting honors in the International League, according to figures released late last week by the Monroe Elias baseball agency in New York.

Robinson, the first Negro to be signed by major organized baseball in nearly 50 years, played in 124 games and ended the season with a percentage of .349, five points better than his nearest rival for the honors.

The former shortstop of the Kansas City Monarchs has been playing second base for the Montreal Royals which won the International league pennant.

Due to Robinson's stellar play, the Royals broke all previous records and the attendance for the league was up 60 per cent over last season.

Robinson was signed by Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

(Details On Sport Page)

Jackie Accepts Post As Honorary Chairman Of United Negro Vets

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 5-29-46

Jackie Robinson, the first Negro to crack modern organized baseball with the Montreal Royals, has accepted the honorary chairmanship of the New York State Committee of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America.

Robinson's participation in the plans for a statewide veterans' conference, to be held June 8-9, was announced by Bert Alves, regional director for UNAVA. Alves also made public a telegram in which Robinson stated: *Wed. 5-29-46*

"I deem it a pleasure and an honor to accept the position of honorary chairman for the New York State UNAVA. The burning problem of housing, discrimination in employment, education and on the job training facing Negro veterans demand an immediate solution. I am happy to join with Joe Louis, honorary national chairman of UNAVA, in the fight to solve these issues."

Burt Alves declared of the new UNAVA honorary state chairman:

"Robinson, who rose from private to first lieutenant in the Army during the war, has consistently shown

great interest in current Negro veterans' problems. In adding his voice to the thousands who are demanding fair treatment for the Negro veteran, he has given the fight great impetus, and has pointed the way for those veterans who still remain unaffiliated." *Wed. 5-29-46*

Montreal 2nd Baseman On Top With .356 Average

Afro-American

Benched Since May 29, on Account of Injury, Star Has Also Sparkled Afield

ROCHESTER, N.Y.—Jackie Robinson, former UCLA all-'round athlete and the first member of his race to gain a chance in organized baseball, moved to the top in individual batting in the International League last week.

George Collins of Jersey City and Eddie Robinson of Baltimore, both white, boast better averages than Jackie but neither has played in a sufficient number of games to merit top ranking. Collins is hitting .385 but has played in only 13 games and Ed Robinson's .358 has been obtained in only 18 contests. *6-8-46*

Tom Tatum, Robinson's teammate at Montreal, is directly beneath the Royal second-sacker but he is also short on games, having collected a .347 average for only 26 games. Eddie Joost, white, of Rochester, is the legitimate runner-up to Jackie. He has played in 32 games, has been at bat 116 times, scored 30 runs and gotten 40 safeties. *Baltimore*

Shortly after assuming the top spot in the batting averages, however, Robinson had to be benched on account of an unexplainable leg injury. *Maryland*

The star second-baseman missed Thursday's holiday double-header and on Friday morning was ordered to bed by Manager Clay Hopper with what the latter first diagnosed as a "charley horse," then later admitted was a mystery ailment.

Hopper told the AFRO on Friday morning that Jackie was excused from the Memorial Day bill when he limped onto the field for pre-game drills. As practice progressed, Hopper said, the limp became more noticeable and Robinson was obviously in pain as he went about his chores.

"I asked him what was the matter," the manager declared, "and Jackie said he thought he had a 'charley-horse' but couldn't say when he developed it. I told him to go in and have it looked at, but our trainer was unable to press it out. We decided to let him give the leg a rest." *6-8-46*

Hopper asserted that Jackie evidently pulled a muscle without knowing it, but added that the injury did not appear to be the ordinary strain that brings about a "charley-horse."

[ED. NOTE: The term "charley-horse" is applied to the knotting of an athlete's muscles and is a painful but not uncommon ailment.] *Baltimore*

The Montreal pilot said he was anxious to get Jackie "back in there" because "I've been counting on him." He feared, however, that Robinson would not be available for the remaining games here and may not be fully recovered in time to play in the Syracuse series.

The injury brought an abrupt and unexpected halt to a nine-game hitting streak on which Jackie was launched during the Montreal home stand. On Wednesday he obtained a single in the final game at Buffalo which, tacked onto the three bingles he obtained on Tuesday, gave him 14 hits in his last 33 times at bat.

Jackie has also served to steady the Royal defenses, what with having played errorless ball since May 10. *Maryland*

When the injury shelved him, Jackie was hitting a lusty .356 and fielding a creditable .956, the result of having handled 154 chances cleanly in 161 chances.

Jackie Robinson

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Jackie Robinson, Montreal second sacker, is batting fifth in the International league as of July 17 in a list of players who have been in 40 or more games. *Sat.*

Robinson, former shortstop for the Kansas City Monarchs and the first Negro signed in major league baseball in nearly 50 years, has been in 68 games and at the bat 238 times. He has made 82 hits, 13 of which have been for two bases, three for triples and one a homer. He has scored 64 runs, batted in 36 runs and has stolen 25 bases. His average is .345. *7-27-46*

Jackie is the second best base stealer in the league. Montreal leads the league.

Leg Injury Continues to Sideline Jackie Robinson

Afro American

Muscle Ailment Benches 2nd Base Star for Second Week, Return Is Uncertain

JERSEY CITY—Jackie Robinson, star second baseman and leading batter of the International League, was still out of the lineup of the Montreal Royals as that team opened its three-game series here with the Little Giants on Sunday. The former UCLA star and the first of his race signed to organized baseball remained on the sidelines with a muscle ailment which Manager Clay Hopper and Trainer Ernie Cook say may keep him idle for an indefinite period.

Robinson continues to suffer from a muscle strain in his right leg. The belief is that Jackie pulled a ligament while breaking into a quick start during a game at Buffalo, N.Y., on May 29.

Jackie Robinson

He has been out of the Royal lineup since that time, except for a part of Friday night's game in Baltimore when he hobbled about to handle three chances afield, and to go hitless in two official times at bat. *Baltimore*

Jackie attempted to play on Thursday night in Baltimore but decided against it when the leg began troubling him during simple pre-game warming-up exercises.

Jackie told the AFRO he has had to favor the leg on other occasions but that it had never troubled him for so long as now. Hopper said X-ray pictures had been taken but, because it was a muscle ailment and not a break or clot, nothing was shown on the film.

Neither would venture to say whether the player would be available for action before the team returns to Montreal on June 16.

Pick Jackie As All Star

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

MONTREAL — Jackie Robinson, Monrteal second-baseman and winner of the International League batting championship, was named to the International League all-star team, it was announced here late last week.

Selections to the all-star team were made by members of the International League Baseball Writers' Association, all white.

5th Most Valuable

The Royal infielder, pioneering for members of his race in organized baseball, also won fifth place in the voting for the most valuable player award, garnering 89 ballots as against 250 for Baltimore's Eddie Robinson, 135 for Newark's Bob Brown, 127 for his teammate, Tom Tatum, and 120 for Eddie Joost of Rochester. *Sat.*

The all-star team infield was Eddie Robinson at first, Jackie on second, Brown in shortstop, and Lew Riggs, Montreal, at third. The outfield was Marvin Rackley and Tatum, Montreal, and Vic Wertz, Buffalo. *10-12-46*

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 98

63a 1946

THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

It Was a Great Day in Jersey

JERSEY CITY, N. J.—The sun smiled down brilliantly in picturesque Roosevelt Stadium here Thursday afternoon and an air of excitement prevailed throughout the spacious park, which was jammed to capacity with 25,000 jabbering, chattering opening day fans . . . A seething mass of humanity, representing all segments of the crazy-quilt we call America, poured into the magnificent ball park they named after a man from Hyde Park—Franklin D. Roosevelt—to see Montreal play Jersey City and the first two Negroes in modern baseball history perform, Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright . . . There was the usual fanfare and color, with Mayor Frank Hague chucking out the first ball, the band music, kids from Jersey City schools putting on an exhibition of running, jumping and acrobatics . . . There was also the hot dogs, peanuts and soda pop . . . And some guys in the distant bleachers whistled merrily: "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" . . . Wendell Willkie's "One World" was right here on the banks of the Passaic River.

Jackie Robinson

The outfield was dressed in a gaudy green, and the infield was as smooth and clean as a new-born babe . . . And everyone sensed the significance of the occasion as Robinson and Wright marched with the Montreal team to deep centerfield for the raising of the Stars and Stripes and the "Star-Spangled Banner" . . . Mayor Hague strutted proudly with his henchmen flanking him on the right and left . . . While the two teams, spread across the field, marched side by side with military precision and the band played on . . . We all stood up—25,000 of us—when the band struck up the National Anthem . . . And we sang lustily and freely, for this was a great day . . . Robinson and Wright stood out there with the rest of the players and dignitaries, clutching their blue-crowned baseball caps, standing erect and as still as West Point cadets on dress parade.

What Were They Thinking About? *Saturday*

No one will ever know what they were thinking right then, but I have traveled more than 2,000 miles with their courageous pioneers during the past nine weeks—from Sanford, Fla. to Daytona Beach to Jersey City—and I feel that I know them probably better than any newspaperman in the business . . . I know that their hearts throbbed heavily and thumped a steady tempo with the big drum that was pounding out the rhythm as the flag slowly crawled up the centerfield mast.

And then there was a tremendous roar as the flag reached its crest and unfurled gloriously in the brilliant April sunlight . . . The 25,000 fans settled back in their seats, ready for the ball game as the Jersey City Giants jogged out to their positions . . . Robinson was the second batter and as he strolled to the plate the crowd gave him an enthusiastic reception . . . They were for him . . . They all knew how he had overcome many obstacles in the deep South, how he had been barred from playing in Sanford, Fla., Jacksonville, Savannah and Richmond . . . And yet, through it all, he was standing at the plate as the second baseman of the Montreal team . . . The applause they gave so willingly was a salute of appreciation and admiration . . . Robinson then socked a sizzler to the shortstop and was thrown out by an eyelash at first base.

The second time he appeared at the plate marked the beginning of what can develop into a great career. He got his first hit as a member of the Montreal Royals . . . It was a mighty home run over the left field fence . . . With two mates on the base paths, he walloped the first pitch that came his way and there was an explosive "crack" as bat and ball met . . . The ball glistened brilliantly in the afternoon sun as it went hurtling high and far over the leftfield fence . . . And, the white flag on the foul-line pole in left fluttered lazily as the ball whistled by.

He Got a Great Ovation From Team, Fans

Robinson jogged around the bases—his heart singing, a broad smile on his beaming broze face as his two teammates trotted homeward ahead of him . . . When he rounded third, Manager Clay Hopper, who was coaching there, gave him a heavy pat on the back and shouted: "That's the way to hit that ball!" . . . Between third and home-plate he received another ovation from the stands, and then the entire Montreal team stood up and welcomed him to the bench . . . White hands slapping him on his broad back . . . Deep Southern voices from the bench shouted, "Yo sho' hit 'at one, Robbie, nice goin' kid!" . . . Another said: "Them folks 'at wouldn't let you play down in Jacksonville should be hee'ah now. Whoopee!" . . . And still another: "They cain't stop ya now, Jackie, you're really goin' places, and we're going to be right there with ya!" . . . Jackie Robinson laughed softly and smiled . . . Johnny Wright, wearing a big, blue pitcher's jacket, laughed and smiled . . . And, high up in the press box, Joe Bostic of the Amsterdam News and I looked at each other knowingly, and, we, too, laughed and smiled . . . Our hearts beat just a bit faster, and the thrill ran through us like champagne bubbles . . . It was a great day in Jersey . . . It was a great day in baseball!

4-27-46

But he didn't stop there, this whirlwind from California's gold coast . . . He ran the bases like a wild colt from the Western plains. He laid down two perfect bunts and slashed a hit into rightfield . . . He befuddled the pitchers, made them balk when he was roaring up and down the base paths, and demoralized the entire Jersey City team . . . He was a hitting demon and a base-running maniac . . . The crowd gasped in amazement . . . The opposing pitchers shook their heads in helpless agony . . . His understanding teammates cheered him on with unrivaled enthusiasm . . . And Branch Rickey, the man who had the fortitude and courage to sign him, heard the phenomenal news via telephone in the offices of the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbetts Field and said admiringly—"He's a wonderful boy, that Jackie Robinson—a wonderful boy!"

They Mobbed Him After the Game *4-27-46*

When the game ended and Montreal had chalked up a 14 to 1 triumph, Robinson dashed for the club house and the showers . . . But before he could get there he was surrounded by a howling mob of kids, who came streaming out of the bleachers and stands . . . They swept down upon him like a great ocean wave and he was downed in a sea of adolescent enthusiasm . . . There he was—this Pied Piper of the diamond—perspiration rolling off his bronze brow, idolizing kids swirling all around him, autograph hounds tugging at him . . . And big cops riding prancing steeds trying unsuccessfully to disperse the mob that had cornered the hero of the day . . . One of his own teammates fought his way through the howling mob and finally "saved" Robinson . . . It was Red Rurrett, who was a hero in his own right because he had pounded out two prodigious home runs himself, who came to the "rescue." He grabbed Robinson by the arm and pulled him through the crowd. "Come on," Durrett demanded, "you'll be here all night if you don't fight them off. They'll mob you. You can't possibly sign autographs for all those kids."

So, Jackie Robinson, escorted by the red-head outfielder, finally made his way to the dressing room. Bedlam broke loose in there, too . . . Photographers, reporters, kibitzers and hangers-on fenced him in . . . It was a virtual madhouse . . . His teammates, George Shuba, Stan Breard, Herman Franks, Tom Tatum, Marvin Rackley and all the others, were showering congratulations on him . . . They followed him into the showers, back to his locker and all over the dressing room . . . Flash bulbs flashed and reporters fired questions with machine-gun like rapidity . . . And Jackie Robinson smiled through it all.

As he left the park and walked out onto the street, the once-brilliant sun was fading slowly in the distant western skies . . . His petite and dainty little wife greeted him warmly and kindly. "You've had quite a day, little man," she said sweetly.

"Yes," he said softly and pleasantly, "God has been good to us today!"

Leading League in Hits

Robinson on Bench; Royals Lose Two Games

Courier

By SAM MALTIN

MONTREAL—A severe Charley horse has kept Jackie Robinson out of action since May 30, and he is expected to be on the sidelines for another week. This hasn't helped the Royals.

On Sunday they dropped a doubleheader to the Syracuse Chiefs, their nearest rivals. They lacked the right-handed power against Jewel Ens' lefties. *6-8-46*

Meanwhile, Robby, with only about six weeks of International League play, is topping the league in three departments, according to the latest official figures. He has batted his way to the batting leadership with a mark of .356; smacked out forty-seven hits in 132 times at bat, jumping from sixth place to first. The hits is top for the course and his thirty-eight runs scored is best in the league. His forty-seven include a homer, three triples and seven doubles. Jackie has stolen nineteen bases to boot. *Pittsburgh*

While Jackie Robinson has been doing all right for himself, Lady Luck has yet to smile on Roy Partlow. He was scheduled to pitch against Rochester last Saturday, but cold weather forced a postponement and with the important series with Syracuse giving Manager Clay Hopper the jitters, the Montreal mentor doesn't want to take a chance with Roy against the strong runner-up club and is saving him for later use.

Montreal Scribe High in Praise of Jackie

Afro-American

By LLOYD McGOWAN

(For Montreal Daily Star)

MONTREAL—Jack Roosvelt Robinson pastimed in a dozen of the 13 games in the Royal home stand. *Baltimore, Md.*

Robinson's steady performance through the dozen games was definitely a rave. He has played far above fandom's fondest hopes.

5-25-46

Nobody can chase Robby off his keystone job—nobody you've seen playing baseball lately.

Jack Roosevelt missed one game with a lame wrist, went in as a pinch batsman, failed.

That's about the only time he didn't deliver at the asking, but it had no significance of his worth to the Montreal Ball club.

Robinson had 13 hits in 46 trips. He drove in six runs in 12 games. He figured in 15 DP's. He swiped five bases.

The double play record is inspiring. Robby has come up as a good pivot man. He wheeled on three in one game, and his arm has been accurate.

Teaming with two shortstops, Breard and Campanis, Robinson in short has left nothing to be desired.

..Thanks in no small measure to Robinson, Royals lead the league in twin killings.

Either the Rickeys know how to pick ball players, regardless of color—or they're just plain lucky.

Robinson's Efforts Go for Naught as Royals Drop Pair

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

By LEELAND M. JONES

BUFFALO, N.Y. — In a thrilling windswept double-header, Buffalo came through on the long end of both games Sunday to beat the Montreal Royals, 7-3 and 5-4.

Jackie Robinson started a rally in the first inning of the opener by getting a walk and scoring on George Shuba's single.

In his next two times at bat, he was given bases on balls but on one was caught trying to steal second and, on the other, was forced out on a double play. *5-25-46*

It was in the fifth inning of the first game that Robinson's fielding looked good. He stabbed what looked like a sure hit by Hamrick just over second. Later in the same frame he threw out Wertz after scooping up a hot drive.

As he trotted from the field at the end of the inning, the fans stood and applauded.

Pops Up in 7th

A pop-up in the seventh ended his day.

Rad Ulovick, white, saved the day for the hometowners by scoring two men with a single.

In the second game, Robinson started off again in an amazing burst of speed to beat out the shortstop's throw to first. Tough luck followed this, too.

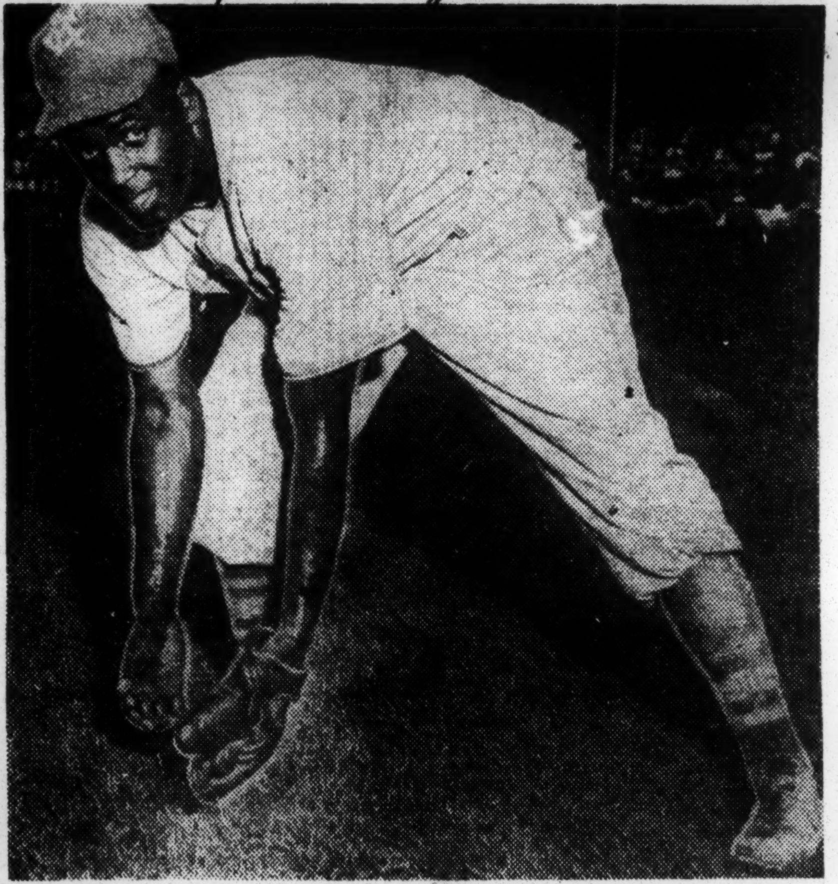
Just as he was reaching first base, whcih he overran, he was tagged out. The umpire claimed he started toward second and was out.

Jackie didn't finish until he threw out McShale and Wertz, then assisted in a quick double-play.

Buffalo won the nightcap on McHale's last inning homer.

Robinson Snappy At Bat in Florida

Daily Worker
New York N.Y.



By BILL MARDO Tue. 3-5-46
Daily Worker Sports Editor

SANFORD, Fla., March 4.—"Well, this is it," murmured Jackie Robinson as he and pitcher John Wright stepped onto the sunbaked Sanford ballpark today and became the first two Negroes to crack modern organized baseball's Jimcrow.

It all happened quite simply—just as democracy itself is a simple thing when allowed to function freely. There's a long way to go before Jimcrow is wiped out of America's National Pastime, but today's beginning was a good one to see.

The Montreal and St. Paul minor league squads were already limbering up on the field when Robinson and Wright trod onto the diamond at 9:30 this morning, garbed in the fresh grey uniforms of the Montreal Royals.

Clyde Sukeforth, a Southerner and one of Branch Rickey's top-notch scouts, walked over to the Negro players, shook hands heartily and immediately put them at ease.

"If there's anything you need, why, just ask for it," drawled the friendly ex-big league catcher. He leaned over, inspected John Wright's sweatshirt and said: "I'll have to get you a heavier one; you can't perspire enough in something that thin." Wright, a good-looking, slender six-footed, grinned back: "This shirt was about the best I could get." Tue. 3-5-46

At that moment, the Montreal players, who were running around the field, passed by the group, and a big blond kid yelled out:

"Hiyah, Jackie," and the husky Robinson whirled around, spotted the caller and shouted back: "Hello, Daly. Good to see you."

John Carey, in charge of the training routine, walked over, and Clyde Sukeforth introduced him to Robinson and Wright. "Make yourself right at home," he said, and then went on to inquire what shape both players were in and when they last worked out.

The trainer told Wright, who hasn't played ball since last year, to jog around the field and loosen up. Sukeforth took Robinson across the street to the smaller diamond which houses the automatic pitching machine. Tue. 3-5-46

Coach Paul Chervinko called the entire squad together for instructions and Jackie just stepped into line with the rest of them. The players were divided into two squads for batting practice—one crew to face the automatic pitcher and another to tee off against a live hurler in the other net.

FREE AND EASY

Robinson and the players on line with him joked freely and joshed the men at bat as they went up for their cut. Most of the men on Robinson's line were Southerners. The tall blond kid who had waved to Robinson earlier in the morning turned out to be Bob Daly, an old chum of Jackie's from California. After driving a few into the outfield, Daly walked over and told us he knew Robinson from Glendale where back in 1941 they both played for a National Youth Administration team.

"He was a good ball player even then," reminisced Daly. "One of the best base runners I've ever seen." And then the lanky outfielder added: "Of course, I never did see a better broken-field football runner than Robinson."

Asked how he felt about a Negro playing for the Montreal team the friendly Californian answered in a matter-of-fact manner: **"Goodness, it's okay with me. I lived with Robinson for three months, and he's one sweet guy."**

The photographers took Robinson back to the big diamond for pictures and an informal press conference.

NATURAL ZIP

While Jackie was posing for the lensmen, Wright was working loose and easy on the mound—tossing them in to a young catcher named Don Zaspel. The graceful Negro twirler, who last pitched for the Floyd Bennett naval team, seemed to have a lot of natural zip on the ball without even throwing hard. He tested a few hooks, watched them plunk beautifully into the catcher's mitt, and soon left the mound for fielding pracice.

LIKE LOUIS

Back at the diamond, Robinson was patiently answering questions tossed at him by the scribes. The well-set former UCLA gridder was very much at ease and responded to queries much in the same manner as Joe Louis.

Somebody asked Robinson how much he weighed, and Jackie replied: **"I'm 195 now."** The reporter seemed surprised, and said: **"You don't look that heavy—where is it all?"**

The shortstop smiled. "My legs—or my feet," and he stuck out his size 12 brogans. Tue. 3-5-46

But Robinson hopes to pare off to 180—his football weight. He's in excellent shape right now, having played three games a week during his six-week tour of Venezuela with a Negro All-Star team. Jackie has been playing a lot of golf since his return to the States, and shot a remarkable 80 his first time on the links.

When asked how he'd feel if he didn't make the Montreal team right off, and had to spend some time with a lesser farm team, Robinson answered quickly: "No, I won't be disappointed if it's decided I need some seasoning. I'm ready to play ball—wherever it is."

CLOUTS DEEP DRIVES

Soon Jackie went back across the street to the batting practice diamond. Stepping up against a young, slim hurler who was feeding him slow balls, Robinson hit the first two pitches into the infield dust. But he adjusted himself to the slow stuff and sent the third pitch screaming into center field.

"Guess I just have to count three before hitting against this fella," Robinson chuckled, as he then tagged the next offering deep into left field. The players whistled softly at that clout. Jackie finished up with another blast just as deep, although more to the left. The ball barely missed hitting a fat cow grazing serenely in the outfield.

One of the players waiting for his turn at bat quipped: **"You almost got yourself a quart of milk with that poke, Jackie."**

EAT TOGETHER

Across the street, Johnny Wright was easily tapping a few grounders to three other players. They were all kidding and having fun as most ball players do while working out. Wright is considered a better than fair hitting pitcher, but he confessed that he couldn't recall his last year's batting average. "Lefty Gomez is better at remembering those things than I am," he grinned.

At 12 o'clock the players knocked off for chow.

Wright, Jackie Robinson and the St. Paul first baseman, Paul Schoendist, walked toward the clubhouse together for their sandwiches and milk. Tue. 3-5-46

And that's how this historic morning went. Smooth and easy. Just like democracy itself—when left to function freely!

the week

Balt-t-more, Md.
Afro-American

Jackie Robinson
Clifton's Reply

By W. I. GIBSON

Jackie Robinson, second baseman of the Montreal Royals' baseball team, left little to be desired when he made his debut in organized baseball at Jersey City last week.

This was by no means surprising to those acquainted with this young ball player's potentialities. Jackie didn't let them down. He hit well, fielded well (had one bobble) and was lightning on the bases.

Robinson played under terrific pressure. Naturally, he wanted to make good for his team and for himself, but he knew that he also was representing a minority which was getting an opportunity to demonstrate its ability. If this worried him at all, Jackie didn't show it. 4-27-46 Sat

It will be difficult, if not impossible for him to keep his poise in the performance of his diamond chores if outside pressure becomes too great. Too many demonstrations, too much autograph signing, etc., whenever he makes his appearance, although well meant, will do more harm than good.

Robinson would rather be known as a good ball player, not a colored player who is exceptionally good. For his sake, then, we should temper our enthusiasm and keep our exuberance within bounds.

The same thing applies to the other players who have been signed. Let's give them a fair chance. They'll come through all right.

Robinson's Timely Hit Wins Game for Montreal

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

MONTREAL—Three hundred colored members of the Frederick Douglass Non-Partisan Civic League of Detroit, on a sight-seeing and lecture tour, were in Montreal last Sunday afternoon to see the celebrated Negro star, Jackie Robinson, in action.

Though Jackie was stymied in [illegible] the first game as the Royals bowed to the Toronto Leafs, 9-2, he emerged as the star in a storybook finish in the nightcap. Sat. 8-24-46

Here's where Robbie came in:

Seventh inning, Montreal trailing, 1-0. First man up is "Texas" Red Durrett, who singles. Al Campanis moved him along with a sacrifice, then out goes Pitcher Curt Davis for pinch hitter "South Carolina" Earl Naylor, who bounces into an out. It's Tom Tatum now, another Texan. He promptly laces out in single and Durrett is in with the tying run.

Up comes Jackie. He jockies the count to two and one. Then Tatum makes a dash for second and the winning run is right there. So it's all up to Robby. And what does he do? He stands up and lashes out a terrific line drive to right field. Tatum, in a great spurt, is home with the winning marker. In an ordinary inning, Robby would have got two bases out of that hit, but he just tags up at first. All that was necessary to win the old ball game.

JACKIE ROBINSON
Due for the Bif Time

The Booing of Robinson

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. Wed. 10-9-46

We like to consider Louisville as a more enlightened part of the South. Most certainly our daily papers are fine examples of considerate journalism, and the community is indebted to The Courier-Journal and The Louisville Times for their inestimable contribution in upholding that which is just, progressive and decent.

Although the daily of a neighboring city carried a story concerning the opposition to Jackie Robinson playing in the Little World Series at Parkway Field, we were reluctant to believe that Louisville, one of the best baseball towns in the country, would object to his playing here. Robinson's record for the season was outstanding, and we were naive enough to think that he would be extended ordinary courtesy. To the contrary he was consistently booed.

However, when those in authority such as those who control your parks, make so much ado about mixed sandlot games which many times heretofore have been played in the best of spirit and without friction, we can attribute in part such boorish attitudes of some fans to this reactionary thinking. We do not think that the progressive people of the South will forever be held to provincial status by the petty prejudice of the witch-hunting bigots who so long have been responsible for its backwardness, and sincerely hope that when the next Negro player appears here under similar circumstances he will be received in a manner which will do credit to this city.

JUNIUS E. HANKINS.

Louisvill ·.

Similar protests are made by "Baseball Fan" and "Disabled Vet," of Louisville, by Ex-Sgt. Max W. Wilson, of Lindwood, Ky., and by W. H. Poore of Crestwood, Ky.—(Editor.

Jackie cops loop batting honors

The Tribune Los Angeles, Calif. Sat. 9-21-46

MONTREAL, Can.—Jackie Robinson, first Negro in organized baseball and second baseman for the Montreal Royals, farm team of the Brooklyn Dodgers, led the International League batters for the season with .349, according to ratings released by the league this week.

The former UCLA all-star athlete did all right for his first season. In 444 times at bat, he banged out 155 safe hits, including 25 doubles, 8 triples and three homers.

With the Royals already having the pennant sewed up by 15 games Robinson has been alternating at third base in preparation for a tryout with the Dodgers. Best at shortstop and second, Robinson had to shift over for the Dodgers' Pee Wee Reese, who was voted the best 1946 shortstop in the National League, and Ed Stankey, who had his banner year at second.

The Dodgers have switched to California for training, which means that Robinson will not have to buck Florida's prejudice again this Spring, that he will have a fair shot at working out with the Dodgers when the time comes.

HIS AVERAGE

G	AB	R	H	RBI	SB	PCT
124	444	113	155	65	40	.349

Columbus, Ga. [illegible]
Sept. [illegible]

RICKEY SILENT ON NEGRO STAR

Dodger Head Mum on Robinson's Future

NEW YORK, Sept. 4—(INS)—Branch Rickey, the gandiloquent old horse trader, was visibly discomposed today when asked to declare his immediate intentions toward Jackie Robinson, Negro star of his Montreal farm club. It seemed Mr. Rickey was seized by a sudden and unaccountable deflation of the windpipe.

He wouldn't say whether Robinson is to be called up in 1947—with other Brooklyn minor league chattels—as the first member of his race to receive a big league trial. But he also wouldn't say he won't. He finally made the point clear with this pontifical utterance:

"That is in the hands of the future."

Having thus satisfied public curiosity, the old frock-coater added that no decision was necessary in this case right now, when it was pointed out that decisions already had been made in other cases. That is, Brooklyn recently announced a preliminary list of minor league recalls for 1947 and Robinson's name was not among them.

Yet the last International league averages show him as its leading hitter at .357 and in runs scored, with 106. He is second in stolen bases, with 37.

Mr. Rickey coughed. Yes, quite so. But there was no rush, was there?

He didn't ask if it were true that major league baseball had no rule against Negroes. Neither did he further seek refuge in the obvious by commenting on a report yesterday that Brooklyn, because of Robinson's anticipated presence with the club, it was planning to shift its training base from Florida to Southern California.

Robinson Making Good At Montreal

News & Courier Charleston, S.C. Sun. 8-11-46

NEW YORK, Aug. 10.—(P): Jackie Robinson, negro second baseman of the Montreal Royals and the first of his race to be signed to a contract in modern organized baseball, is on his way up to the Major leagues says Clay Hopper, Montreal manager.

"That boy is a very fine ball player, and although he would be the first negro to go up, I wouldn't be surprised to see him stick with the Brooklyn Dodgers next year," Hopper, a Southerner, said a few days ago. "He can hit, throw, field and has tremendous speed. And that about gets you there."

The Royals, a farm club of the Dodgers, are leading the International league by a wide margin and one of the big reasons is James Roosevelt Robinson.

In his initial triple-A contest, Robinson smashed a homer, three singles, batted in four runs, tallied four markers and stole two bases. Since his sensational debut, Robinson has more than held his own with the willow. During the past week he rapped out 13 hits in 23 trips to the plate to move into the runner-up spot in the league's individual batting derby with a .367 mark. He has been among the first five hitter most of the season and led the circuit in batting for a number of weeks.

BASEBALL: Royal Robinson

Newsweek New York, N.Y.

The Montreal Royals, most fertile of the Brooklyn Dodger farms, ran away with the International League pennant while their Flatbush parents still struggled for survival in the National League. The Royals, hailed by Montreal fans as the wonder team of the year, were seventeen games ahead as of last week. Within a few days, they will clinch mathematically baseball's oldest minor-league flag—two weeks before the end of the season. 8/26/46

Manager Clay Hopper's team was built for speed and power. It is loaded with old Dodger stars—Curt Davis, "The Old Professor," Lew Riggs, and Herman Franks—and new Dodger hopefuls—left-handed Steve Nagy, Jean Pierre Roy, a refugee from the Mexican League, and Marvin (Rabbit) Rackley, a swift thief of bases. But the sensation of the Royals, and of the International League, is Jack Robinson, first Negro to play organized baseball in modern times.

In spring training, Robinson just couldn't get going. A shortstop, he was placed at second base to save his weak throwing arm. He had little baseball experience—at the University of California at Los Angeles and with the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro American League.

Some Southern cities forbid Negroes playing ball with whites, and the Royals had to cancel a few of their exhibition games. The pressure of being a test case was heavy on Robinson. He tried too hard. Nevertheless, the former Army lieutenant spurned a Mexican League offer at nearly double his Montreal salary.

On opening day, he thumped his way out of his slump. He hit a homer and

three singles and stole two bases to help Montreal rout the Jersey City Giants 14 to 1. He hasn't faltered since. Last week, the 27-year-old Royal was the League's second leading base stealer with 33 thefts (Rackley was first with 58), and the league's leading hitter with an average of .371. Branch Rickey's racial "guinea pig" was a standout ballplayer.

Manager Hopper, a Mississippi cotton broker, has nothing but praise for the popular Robbie. "There never has been a faster breaking two-way player on the base paths," says Hopper. "He's a player who must go to the majors. He's a big-league ballplayer, a good team hustler, and a real gentleman." 8/26/46

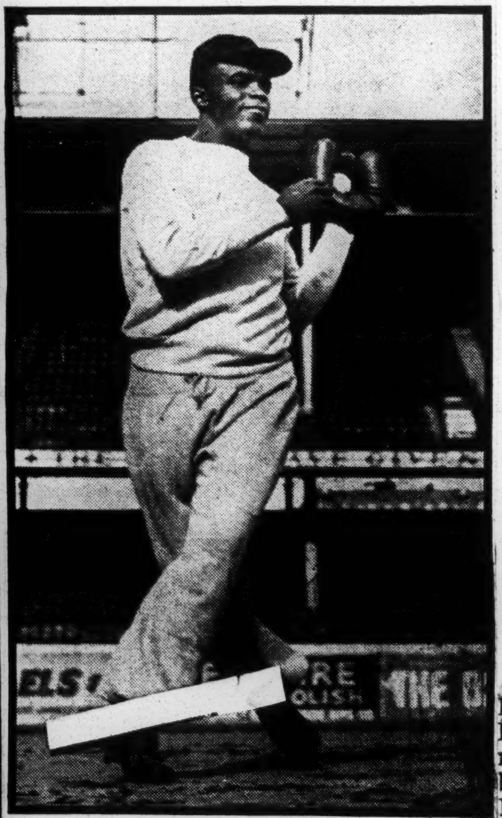
The Dodgers would like to have Robinson for their September pennant drive, but the Royals want him equally much for the Shaughnessy playoffs, the postseason elimination contest among the four top IL teams for $13,000, and the right to meet the American Association playoff champion in the Junior World Series. So the second baseman's big-league tryout will have to wait until next spring.

"I've had great luck and great treatment," says Robinson. "This is the greatest thing that has ever happened to me."

Jackie Makes Good

Time New York N.Y.

Last fall, Brooklyn's Branch ("The Brain") Rickey tossed a bomb into baseball and stuck his fingers in his ears. He signed up Jack Roosevelt Robinson, a Negro shortstop and onetime football star at U.C.L.A., for his Montreal farm club (TIME, Nov. 5). It was the first time a Negro had ever played Class AA ball without being passed off as a Cuban, a Mexican, or an Indian and there were a good many skeptics who said that it wouldn't work. By last week some of them would admit they were wrong: Jackie Robinson was the International



Harold Carter-Life

JACKIE ROBINSON
He beat out bunts and an old prejudice.

League's leading batsman (.378) and Montreal's standout star.

The first test rangy, graceful Jackie Robinson had to pass was a session at the plate in spring training. On the mound were some fastball pitchers, some of them Southerners. There was a feeling that one of them might try "spinning his cap" (pitching at his head). They didn't, but Jackie Robinson was blazing the way for other Negro ballplayers and he was jittery.

Mon. 8-26-46

He flunked the batting test. Afield he showed a minor talent, too. His aim was erratic and he had to be moved from shortstop to second base for the easier peg to first. All he seemed to have was dazzling speed on the bases and a modest, earnest attitude that quickly put him in solid with his white Montreal teammates.

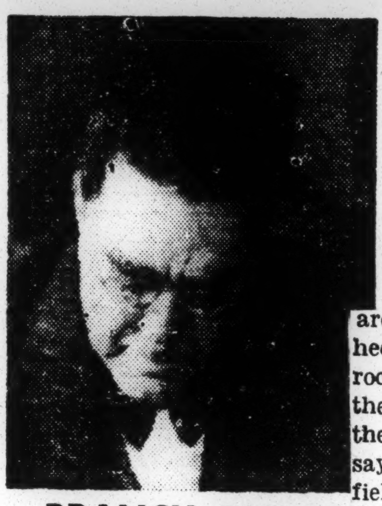
Southern Cross. Because of its Negro player, Montreal had to cancel a Southern exhibition tour. But in the first game of the regular season Jackie belted four hits including a homer and he lost his jitters.

He expected trouble at Baltimore, lone "Southern" city on the circuit, but got more at Syracuse, where the players ragged him a bit. Says he: "When I didn't pay any attention, they dropped it." He stays at the same hotel as his teammates in every city but Baltimore, rides in a compartment by himself on trains, gets along well with Manager Clay Hopper, an ex-Mississippian. Robinson neither drinks nor smokes. In 100 games with Montreal this year, he has made 133 hits, stolen 33 bases, scored 100 runs. With him as its top attraction, Montreal's paid admissions on the road jumped to triple last season's.

Although not a power hitter (he has only three home runs), Robinson makes up the difference by beating out bunts, stretching singles into doubles and doubles into triples. Last week, with Montreal 15 games out front and the parent Brooklyn Dodgers puffing to stay one jump ahead of the Cardinals, Boss Rickey asked himself whether he should call Robinson up to the majors but apparently thought better of it. But even if Robinson got no chance at a Brooklyn uniform until 1947, he had already accomplished his mission. Other big-league moguls were already hunting around for Negro rookies of promise.

Dodgers Kill Rumor On Jackie Runaround

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 11-27-46



BRANCH RICKEY
REAFFIRMS TRYOUT

Explain Setup to 'Daily'

By Lester Rodney

Quashing all rumors to the contrary, the Brooklyn Dodgers front office yesterday told the Daily Worker that Jack Robinson will be looked over and appraised for a spot on the regular team next spring at Havana.

This question had been apparently long settled, but arose again Tuesday during the hectic session at which Leo Durocher signed his contract. Among the many announcements tossed to the press that afternoon was one saying that the great Negro infielder, who led the International League in batting in '46, would report as a member of the Montreal team.

With Durocher's contract the big noise, there was no opportunity at the meeting to clarify that announcement, which occasioned a little surprise and started some talk to the effect that maybe this was the beginning of a run-around for Robinson.

Unable to reach prexy Branch Rickey via phone, we got Harold Parrott, secretary, who said he was speaking for the Brooklyn club in emphasizing the fact that Robinson will certainly get his tryout with the parent club.

Asked how Robby would be adequately judged if he were working out with Montreal apart from the Brooklyn team, Parrott said.

"Why he will be playing against the Dodgers in preliminary training games a dozen times. Naturally every member of the Montreal team, which is our farm, will be looked over as a prospect. And naturally Robinson's record entitles him to a very good look."

Parrott pointed out that Jackie's status will be exactly the same as that of Carl Furillo and Dick Whitman when they reported to Daytona Beach, Florida, last spring nominally members of the Montreal club. Both were shifted to the Dodgers after an impressive early showing, and stayed all year.

"Not only will Robinson get looked over as much as anyone on the Montreal team," Parrott added, "But you can even say he will get looked over as much as anyone on the Brooklyn team, anyone already formally signed to a Brooklyn contract."

Robinson, along with the other Montreal players, is due to report to the training grounds March 1.

Robinson will have five weeks to be "looked over." The Dodgers break camp on April 6 and head northward. No long exhibition junket through the South has been announced. This, as well as the move from Florida to Cuba, has been generally accepted as a move by Rickey to avoid discrimination against Robinson by Southern cities though Rickey has never said just that.

Jackie's All-Stars Drub Major Leaguers

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 10-19-46

CHICAGO—(Special) — Jackie Robinson's All-Stars defeated Hans Wagner's Major Leaguers, made up of players from the Pittsburgh and Cincinnati National League Clubs, plus Stan Ferrens of the St. Louis Browns, pitcher, here Sunday, 10-5.

John Wright hurled five innings for the Robinson team, giving way to Ross Davis, who walked the first two men in the sixth, and Robinson flagged him to the dugout and sent Mike Nozinski, white, of the Nashua, N.H. New England League team to the mound. He finished the game.

Wright got credit for the victory. Ferrens was charged with the defeat, although Bob Malloy of the Cincinnati Reds pitched the last $5\frac{2}{3}$ innings. Playing on the Robinson team were Marvin Rackley, outfielder for the Montreal team, and Al Campanis, shortstop for the same club. Both are white.

Also playing for Robinson were Larry Doby, Lennie Pearson and Monty Irvin, all of the world champion Newark Eagles; Roy Campanella of the Nashua team, and Wright, pitcher, who was signed by Branch Rickey and later sent to the Three Rivers Club of the Canadian-American League, after a tryout with Montreal.

Robinson, who topped the International League batters, was at the bat four official times, scored one run and banged out two hits, one of them a triple down the right field foul line.

He accepted eight chances without a bobble and started three lightning double plays. He played six innings at second and moved to short when Campanis left the game in the sixth.

Campanella got two hits, one of them a double. Rackley poled a double and Campanis got one single in two trips to the plate.

ANOTHER VOTE FOR JACKIE

Daily Worker

Sports Contest Editor:

I think the greatest sporting event of 1946 was the consistently great, all-around and year-long play of Jackie Robinson. It was this factor, even if Robinson hadn't led his league in batting or hadn't had such a spectacular opening day with the club-and-mitt that is responsible for Robinson being in the major leagues next year. This fact transcends in importance any mere feat that will be recorded only in the sporting annals by virtue of a printing press; it will be recorded in the minds and hearts of millions of people, white as well as black.

New York, N.Y.

In so doing Robinson's year-long play and fine sportsmanship becomes transformed into a weapon in the hands of the common people of this nation; a powerful weapon for smashing Jimcrow, not only in the majors, not only for paving the way for future Negro big leaguers, but in every phase of human activity the country over.

With his shilayee - and - glove, Robinson fought a political battle as writers do with their typewriters and workers with picket lines: a battle for unity that brings closer the doom of imperialism and the day when the only race will be the human race.

Sincerely, Sat. 12-21-46
MIKE HECHT
30 E. Division St.
Chicago, Illinois

BASEBALL STAR TO MARRY IN LOS ANGELES

Jackie Robinson Says He Is Not Expecting Trouble at Montreal Camp in Daytona Beach, Florida

NEW YORK CITY—Jackie Robinson, the former Kansas City Monarchs' shortstop who is gunning for a berth with the Montreal Royals of the International League, returned from Venezuela Friday confident that he "will do all right in white organized baseball."

Robinson spent three months in Venezuela and played a number of games against Latin players now in the big leagues. Playing with Caracas, Robinson played his usual brilliant game and batted well over the .300 mark.

GOING HOME

"I am going home to Pasadena, Calif.," Robinson told The Courier, "and will stay there until time to go to Daytona Beach for the Montreal training sessions. I'm in good condition and anxious to get going."

Robinson said he flew by plane from Venezuela to Miami and took a train from there to New York, where he met his fiancee, Miss Rachel Isum of Los Angeles.

"I plan to be married around Jan. 10 or Jan. 17," he stated, "and will have a little time with my wife before heading for training camp." Miss Isum has been attending school in New York since last September.

He was unable to say just when the Royals will launch their drills. "I haven't been instructed when to report," he said, "but it will probably be around the second week in February. Mr. Rickey has been confined to a hospital for a much needed rest and I won't know anything until I hear from him."

Rickey, owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers and responsible for the signing of the former all-around UCLA star, has been hospitalized for the past month.

"I don't think I'll have any trouble down at Daytona Beach," Robinson said. "I'll be down there strictly as a baseball player and will act accordingly. I am conscious of the many obstacles that may crop up, but my main concern will be making the Montreal team."

The fleet-footed ball player and Miss Isum planned to leave New York Thursday for California by train.

JACKIE TAKES BATTING LEAD

Jackie Robinson, sensational Montreal rookie who is scheduled for advancement to the Brooklyn Dodgers, swept into the International League's batting lead this past week with a sizzling .371 average.

Baseball Writers' Dinner Hits New Low In Ridiculing of Negro, Jackie Robinson

By ALBERT ANDERSON

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—There are times when being comic goes a little too far even in the privacy of the sacrosanct "dinners" given annually by such gentry as the "press," the "baseball writers," etc. A case in point is the annual dinner the baseball writers had last week when they lampooned and ridiculed the entry of a Negro into the sacred precincts of big time organized ball. Arthur Daley in the "Sports of the Times" (New York) column on Monday tells the story.

Daly says, "The burlesque was so broad that the scribes were able to risk bringing into the cast of characters as delicate a subject as Jackie Robinson, the Negro shortstop whom Branch Rickey signed to a Montreal contract. But it all was such lampoonery that no one's feelings really were hurt. So here's just a brief sample and much too telescoped example of the proceedings:

"(Curtain rises showing a southern mansion. Darky in breeches is dusting table with his back to audience. He turns slowly, disclosing that upper part of his uniform is a Montreal shirt. Waits for laugh. advances center, peers into wing)."

"Butler—'Looks lak de massa will be late dis evening.' (Exits.)

"Later, a character supposed to be Commissioner Chandler after making a speech, claps hands and calls. 'Robbie--eee, Robbie,'. Butler enters.

"Butler—'Yassa Massa. Here Ah is.'

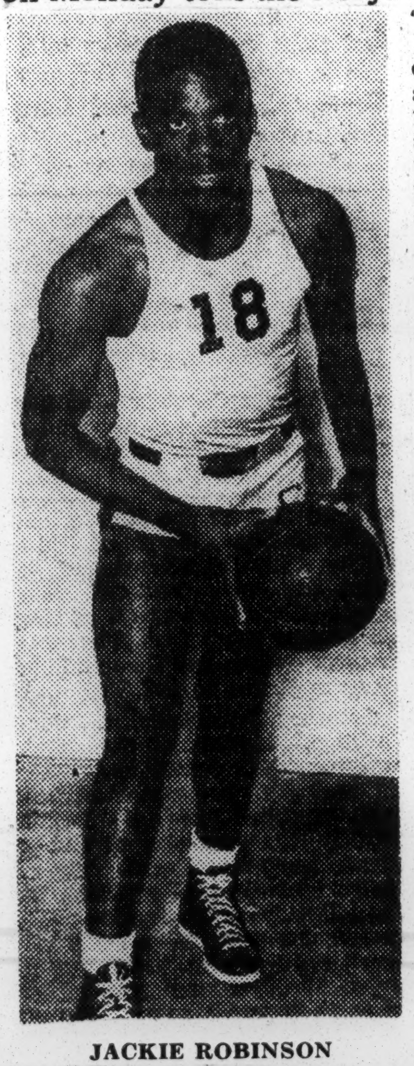
"Chandler—'Ah there you are Jackie. Jackie, you ole wooly headed rascal, how long you been in the family?'

"Butler— 'Long time, Kun'l. Marty long time. Ebber since Massa Rickey done bote me from da Kansas City Monarchs.'

"Chandler—'To be sure, Jackie, to be sure. How could Ah forget that Col. Rickey brought you to our house.' (aside) 'Rickey—that no good carpet-bagger. What could he be thinking of?.'

Commenting on the stinking mess, which is just a sample of what Jackie Robinson may have to endure in his chance for the "pursuit of happiness and equality" in this land of the free. Mr. Daley comments:

"It goes on from there almost indefinitely in filibuster fashion...The final curtain came none too soon."



JACKIE ROBINSON
What May Be Expected

The Baseball Writers dinner is an annual private affair in which characters close to the national pastime get a going over. But the tone of this particular one casts some light on what Jackie Robinson and Wright may expect at the hands of those who send out baseball news from the telegrapher's boxes in the baseball press boxes of America.

Mr. Daley is none too reluctant to give vent to the expression "darky," in his writing.

In another news account of the dinner, taking up better than half a column, no mention was made of who portrayed the part of the butler, although particular mention is given the other members of the cast and the "difficult" parts they played.

—Cummiskey—

Whatever Became Of Jack Robinson?

There was quite a flurry of newsprint when the Dodgers announced several months ago that Jackie Robinson, the Negro shortstop, would get a tryout, under contract, with the Montreal Royals at Daytona Beach, Fla.

The thought strikes me, reading all the dispatches from the land of palmetto and sweat-stained baseball slaves, that the Spring season, so called, has been long under way, particularly with the 150 candidates working with the Dodgers at Sanford, Fla., and there has been nary a word about Robbie—or about John R. Wright, the 27-year-old Negro pitcher also signed to a Royal contract.

Now it may be that the March 1 date and the Daytona Beach locale is the time and locale for breaking with precedent in Organized Baseball but there has been a dearth, to say the least, of comment about the up-coming social experiment and I wonder why all the silence?

It is a fact that the Daytona Beach training camp hasn't been opened as yet but in the same breath you can't tell me that every one of those big league aspirants over at Sanford are going to be Dodgers by mid-April.

And a lot of them will wind up with the Montreal club and on lesser clubs in the Brooklyn farm system and do you think it's exactly fair to give so many of them such a head start on Robinson and Wright?

I'll admit that Branch Rickey—a lot of his major league colleagues call him Carpetbagger for short—must have thought all these things out and determined the best thing for his two Negro stars to do is to report with the Montreal club, as such, at Daytona Beach.

While on the subject of Negroes playing ball with Whites I have an interesting note from Howard Davis, sports ed. of the *Sunday Independent* in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. He talks of the Penn State League and the leaders therein, the W-B Barons, owned by State Rep. Eddie White.

White, Davis says, collected the best local boys and augmented them with Negro basketball stars like Dolly King, ex-LIU and Puggy Bell. The White players get along OK with these two and the fans think they're wonderful.

"I'm not saying," Davis writes, "that in the coal region we're more tolerant than other places but the fact our population is composed of practically every nationality under the sun may help us take a saner attitude toward the problem.

"This is the first time I ever heard of Negro and White players hitting it off well on a professional team and it certainly works out in Wilkes-Barre."

That little aside makes a nice point but I'm still anxious to hear about whatever became of Jackie Robinson and what plans are in Florida to get him spotlighted by the press and to read how *he's* getting along in his tremendous and gallant effort to carry his heavy, heavy load. And what help he's going to get along the way.

Jackie Robinson Signs With Montreal

MONTREAL, Jan. 27—(AP)—Jackie Robinson, former UCLA Negro football and baseball star, has signed his contract to play for Montreal Royals of the International Baseball League next season, Manager Mel Jones disclosed today.

Terms of the contract were not announced. Robinson originally signed an agreement to play within the Brooklyn Dodgers' organization, of which Montreal is a farm team, several months ago.

Montreal Cancels Jimcrow Game in Jacksonville

Special to the Daily Worker

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 29.—The Montreal baseball club stood up for its two Negro players, Jackie Robinson and John Wright, and cancelled a jim crow game with the local Jacksonville team.

Originally the club had planned to play today without the two men, the first Negroes to crack organized baseball. The labor movement, however, got on the job and turned the tide.

John Lackner, Florida CIO president; Leo Regan, CIO National Maritime Union port agent; H. Baker, executive secretary Local 32, Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO; P. L. Redding, local president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and A. J. McKeever, editor of the Progressive News, local Negro paper, all wired the Montreal management urging them not to play the game under jimcrow conditions. As a result, the game was cancelled.

"I DO"—Their faces reflecting the solemnity of the occasion, Jackie Robinson and Rachel Annette Isum attend the words of the Rev. Karl Downs at their wedding last Sunday at Independent church. (See story).

Dignity marks Robinson and Isum wedding service

Los Angeles Tribune, California

With a dignity which has characterized both young people, Rachel Annette Isum and Jack Roosevelt (Jackie) Robinson were married last Sunday afternoon at Independent church.

The ceremony, marked by an efficiency which also reflects the behaviour and careers of the young couple, was conducted before the families and friends of the two; but they were so many that even though the auditorium was closed to all but invitation holders, every seat was taken.

The Rev. Karl Downs in whose former charge, Scott Methodist church of Pasadena, Jackie grew up, flew here from Texas, where he is president of Sam Houston college, specially to perform the ceremony. *Sat 2.16-46*

The bride, the daughter of Mrs. Zellee Isum of W. 36th street, wore a gown of ivory satin with a shirred yoke, tufted bodice and hoop skirt. A three-tier veil of illusion lace was held in place by a queen's crown. She carried a bridal bouquet of white orchids and hyacinths.

Young Robinson, formally attired, was noticeably nervous as he waited at the altar, attended by his boyhood friend and best man, Jack Gordon, former Pasadena athlete.

The bride was attended by Misses Florence Nukes, Charlotte Robinson and Josephine Marshall, wearing aqua marine satin and carrying American Beauty roses. Mrs. Flora Gladman was maid of honor and she wore a similar gown and carried roses.

Mrs. Isum was gowned in French blue twill, and Mrs. Mallie Robinson, mother of the groom, wore rose brocade. The groomsmen were Pete McCullough, Sidney Hurd, and Buddy DeVine.

A wedding reception followed at the home of the bride's mother. Dinner followed that, after which the bride and her maids attended a performance of the ballet at the Philharmonic.

The couple was to leave immediately for a honeymoon in northern California. They also expect to stay a while in Florida while Robinson, who is the first Negro chosen to play major league baseball, will train. From there, they will go to Canada where Robinson will do further training and Mrs. Robinson will enter a university to continue her studies in nurse education.

The two met while they were students at the University of California at Los Angeles. Mrs. Robinson later attended the University of California School of Nursing in San Francisco and Robinson entered the Army, where he became a lieutenant in the cavalry. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, while Mrs. Robinson is a member of Alpha Gamma chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

ROBINSON REBUFFS BID FROM MEXICO

New York Times

Rickey Assails Agent for His Offer to Negro—Brooklyn Halts St. Paul by 7-4

New York, N.Y.

By ROSCOE McGOWEN

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., March 19—A lot of acrimony developed here today, both before and during the exhibition game between the St. Paul Saints and the Dodgers, which the latter won, 7—4.

The first display of acerbity, to put it mildly, was given by Branch Rickey when the Brooklyn president discovered an agent of the Mexican National League, identified only as Señor R. Janis, Laredo, Tex., in the stands and practically chased him out of the park.

Señor Janis previously had appeared at Kelly Field, the Montreal Royals' training ground, and had talked to Jackie Robinson in an attempt to lure the Negro shortstop into the Mexican loop. He offered Jackie $6,000 per season, plus all expenses for himself and his wife.

Robinson turned down the offer, saying he wouldn't accept "if they gave me the $500,000 they offered Ted Williams." *Wed. 3-20-46*

Rickey Finds His Man

Rickey was looking for Janis at City Island Park and when he spotted his man, assailed him bitterly.

"Don't you know these boys are under contract?" Rickey demanded, to which Senor Janis blandly rejoined:

"Are they?"

Whereupon the Mahatma told the Senor to get out of his ball park, out of his hotel and out of the city.

Another baseball veteran, Umpire Larry Goetz, supplied verbal fireworks as early as the second inning of the game when he took violent exception to remarks from Manager Ray Blades of the Saints.

Larry stopped the contest in the Dodgers' second and wouldn't permit play to be resumed until Blades removed himself from the bench. Then, in the Brooklyn fourth, the umpire suddenly strode to the St. Paul dugout again and cleared the bench of all superfluous players, at least nine of them eventually filing out under the umpire's orders.

Robinson Makes Debut, Is Hitless In Three At Bats

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald

Tue. 3-19-46

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., March 17—(AP)—9 precedent for baseball training in the South was set today when the Dodgers played their Montreal International League Farm Club with the minor leaguers having Jackie Robinson, Negro infielder, in their lineup.

It was the first time a Negro player ever participated with whites in an exhibition game for which admission was charged in the State of Florida. The Dodgers won the game, 7 to 2, before a crowd of about 4,000.

Approximately 1,000 Negroes attended and they overflowed their section of the stands making it necessary for about 200 to stand back of the rightfield foul line.

Robinson played second base for the Royals until they had completed their half of the sixth inning. He made three appearances at the plate but failed to get a hit. He lifted a weak foul to Billy Herman in the second inning, fouled out to Catcher Dixie Howell in the fourth and in the sixth hit a grounder to Herman whose throw to second base forced Howie Schultz loaned to Montreal by the Dodgers for the game. Robinson then stole second and scored on a single. *Tue. 3-19-46*

When he came to bat for the first time the Negroes applauded. The whites, sitting back of third base, didn't engage in handclapping until Herman had caught the foul fly. However, in his next two times at the plate Robinson was applauded by both whites and Negroes as he took his place in the batter's box.

The Dodgers scored all their runs off Steve Nagy, getting four in the first and three in the third, the final frame for the Montreal south-paw. The first three Dodger runs came when Dixie Walker tripled after three successive passes.

Jackie Robinson Hero of New Comic Book

Baltimore, Md. Afro American

The life of Jackie Robinson, brilliant athlete and the first colored player to be signed by organized baseball, is the subject of one of the leading articles appearing in the April issue of Picture News, newest of the Comics magazines, which is devoted exclusively to current news events and true human interest features. *Sat. 3-16-46*

The story, titled "The California Flash," and written by Charles Wessell, traces Jackie's athletic career from his college days when he starred at UCLA in football, track and basketball. During the war, he was a lieutenant in the armed forces.

The article pays tribute to the great athletes who have won sport honors for the United States all over the world, and expresses hope that more will be signed for professional baseball. *Afro-American*

63a 1946 Jackie Robinson

A Chat With Jackie Robinson

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By GERTRUDE STOUGHTON

(Staff Writer, Daily People's World) Thurs 2-21-46

LOS ANGELES.—Jackie Robinson, outstanding college football player and first Negro to break through the Jimcrow tradition of major league baseball, believes that athletics and Army experience are doing much to build up interracial harmony, and will do more. The slim ballplayer speaks readily of experiences which back up his position.

"I guess the ice is broken in baseball," he told **The People's World.** "Since I was signed up by the Brooklyn Dodgers, two more colored players have been signed, John Wright and Roy Partlow. And I think there will be at least a couple more this year." **(The signing of Roy Partlow hasn't been officially confirmed by the Dodger organization yet—although Partlow's signing has been widely rumored for two months now.—Ed. Note.)**

JACKIE ROBINSON

Robinson has just come back from a 23-game baseball barnstorming tour of Venezuela, where the color line is thoroughly ignored, he said. Being signed up by the Montreal farm club of the Dodgers, his first appearance will probably be in Canada, where prejudice is less virulent than in the United States. But Robinson will first go into training March 1 at Daytona Beach, Florida, where he hopes that interracial baseball will help outlaw prejudice against minority groups.

His favorite recreation is golf—a field in which social and racial distinctions are still hard and fast. Negroes are not admitted to most of the country clubs that produce the champion golf-players, but there are all-Negro golf clubs.

"I used to play golf with Joe Louis at the Fort Riley cavalry post in the army," Robinson said. "Joe and I both find something very intriguing about the game. You make a good shot once—and then you can't rest until you make it again."

Thurs 2-21-46

Even the army, Robinson thinks, is doing a lot to break down racial prejudice—and he says this in spite of having spent most of his 31-months with the all-Negro cavalry outfit at Fort Riley, Kansas.

"It's the travelling around the guys do that makes them learn in the army," he said. "Men from all parts of the country meet and exchange ideas. Just talking to fellows on the train does a lot."

He has high praise for Carleton Moss' documentary film, **The Negro Soldier.**

"It showed a lot of people the kind of work we really did," he says.

Robinson feels people must keep a sharp eye on the progress of Fair Employment Practices legislation. "I notice they have an FEPC law in New York State and in New York City," he said. "I believe it will go through here, and eventually in every state in the union. I am sure it's the coming thing."

Asked what his plans were for the time when his baseball days are over, Robinson had them all figured out—and they carried forward his idea that sports could be used to create friendly relations between races.

"I'd like to be the leader of a boys' club," he said. "I've often wanted to see that Negro boys got a chance to belong to a good athletic club. But I wouldn't limit it to Negro boys. It would be for all the kids in the neighborhood."

Robinson this week received an award as the outstanding Negro baseball player of the year at the first annual athletic award dinner sponsored by the **Pittsburgh Courier.** He was married Feb. 10 to Miss Rachel Isum, graduate of California at Los Angeles.

Officials Close Park To Prevent Sat. Mixed Game

Pittsburgh Courier

By WENDELL SMITH (Sports Editor)

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—While the Bureau of Recreation in Jacksonville was busy nailing up the doors of the city baseball park, training grounds of the Jersey City Giants, in order to keep Jackie Robinson from entering and playing there Sunday with the Montreal Royals, the fleet-footed Negro infielder was having a swell time helping his mates wallop the Brooklyn Dodgers' "B" team here in the hospitable city of Daytona Beach, 5 to 3.

3-30-46

Other Stories and Pictures From Training Camp ON SPORTS PAGES

The controversy over Robinson's appearance in Jacksonville with the Montreal Royals was spurred by George Robinson, executive secretary of the Bureau of Recreation, last Friday. The man who elected to bar his Negro namesake told newspapermen that Robinson could not play in Jacksonville with the Montreal team because of a law prohibiting Negroes and whites playing together in that city. He also instructed the Jersey City team to that effect, who in turn notified Branch Rickey of the banning.

RICKEY DEMANDS DIRECT NOTICE 3-30-46

Rickey, however, was not impressed with this round-about notification, and insisted that the ruling be sent to him in writing on the "official stationery of the city of Jacksonville." Rickey's insistence on this formal procedure apparently vexed the authorities in Jacksonville, because rather than put their ultimatum down in black and white, they closed up the ball park and thereby made it impossible for either Montreal or Jersey City to perform.

This "bold" move, however, turned out to be a moral victory of some kind for Rickey & Co. because:

1. No game was played at all in Jacksonville Sunday.

2. By being forced to cancel the game, the Jersey City team lost at least $3,000, although it was an innocent bystander in the entire matter. 3-30-46

3. The city of Jacksonville lost considerable money by virtue of the fact that it gets a "cut" out of the receipts taken in at all Jersey City games there.

4. Jersey City was unable to hold a practice session because a padlock had been put on the park. Sat.

5. At least 4,000 innocent baseball fans in Jacksonville missed their usual Sunday ball game.

6. The adverse publicity via the press and radio made the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce run for cover.

7. Montreal stayed here in Daytona Beach and made more money than they probably would have gotten in Jacksonville by playing the Dodgers.

8. Jackie Robinson did play ball Sunday afternoon anyhow.

BARRED ALL NEGROES

Saturday afternoon Charley Stoneham, business manager of the Jersey City team, and cousin of Horace Stoneham, who owns the New York Giants and the Jersey City team as well, told Rickey that the city officials of Jacksonville would not permit Robinson or Johnny Wright, the other Negro member of the Montreal club, to play there Sunday.

"If that is true," Rickey said, "Robinson and Wright will not make the trip to Jacksonville. But before we leave them here in Daytona Beach we must have official notification from the authorities in Jacksonville. If such is the case, however, neither the Montreal club nor the Brooklyn club will bear the onus. Let there be no misunderstanding on that point," Rickey declared emphatically.

Rickey's clear-cut challenge was never accepted. However, rather than put themselves "on the spot" by notifying the Montreal Club in writing of the ban, the authorities in Jacksonville simply ordered the park closed to everybody Sunday, including the tenants, the Jersey City Giants. It was probably the first time in history that a game between teams in organized baseball was cancelled because of racial controversy.

NO GAME IN JACKSONVILLE 3-30-46

So Sunday afternoon, while the Jersey City Giants were twiddling their thumbs in Jacksonville because they had no one to play, the Montreal team was roaring up and down the base paths at Island Park in Daytona Beach beating their big brothers, the Dodgers. And in the middle of all the merriment and fun was Jackie Robinson, who played first base for Montreal and did a creditable job before 2,000 loudly yelling fans.

ROYALS' HOME RUN DECIDES

The Royals sewed up the contest in the first half of the ninth when Kermit Whitman broke up a 3-3 tie, with a lusty inside-the-park home run, driving teammate Lou Basgall home ahead of him for a 5 to 3 triumph.

Although he failed to connect in four trips to the plate against the slants of Joe Hatten and Ed Van Cuyk, Robinson looked good at first base, making thirteen putouts and chalking up three assists.

RICKEY MAKES STATEMENT

After the game Rickey was asked how he felt about the cancellation in Jacksonville. "Well," he answered with a big smile, "I think all of us will sleep just as well tonight, eat just as well tomorrow and feel just as good the next day. In fact, I think the world will keep on moving in the same general direction—forward."

Jackie Gets Mexican Bid

Afro American Baltimore Md.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—Jackie Robinson on Tuesday was offered $6,000 and expenses for himself and his wife if he would play ball in the Mexican League.

The offer was made by an agent for the Pasquel brothers, guiding lights of Mexican baseball. The man, identified as Senor R. Janis of Laredo, Tex., was reproached by Branch Rickey, Brooklyn Dodgers' president, who has Robinson under contract to play with his Montreal Royals farm team.

Jackie dispelled any fears that he might jump to the Mexican loop by assuring Rickey he "wouldn't go if they paid me the $500,000 they offered Ted Williams." 3-30-46

In this corner

Daily Worker Wed 3-27-46

Not a Ducat Left For Rocky-Servo Go

New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

That was a very nice feature the Post's Arch Murray had yesterday on Jackie Robinson. Observing that it was just three weeks ago to the day that Robbie made his debut in Sanford, Murray sounded out the fine Negro shortstop as to his experiences during his first 21 days in organized baseball.

"The thing that has impressed me most," Robinson replied, "is the attitude of the other players—the way most of them have gone out of their way to help me. Even the two or three who were apparently hostile at first have come around."

Robinson said he believed he can make the Montreal team despite the heavy infield competition. "My throwing arm is coming around . . . getting stronger every day. And I know I'll hit. My big trouble so far has been that I've been trying too hard, pressing up there at the plate. The pressure and the tension were very heavy on me at first. I've felt so deeply upon how much the fate of so many other colored boys depends on what I do here."

Dodgers' Negro Shortstop Is Hitless In First Exhibition

Montgomery Advertiser Alabama

DAYTONA BEACH, FLA., March 6.—(AP)—Jackie Robinson, one of the two Negro players on Brooklyn's Montreal farm team, took part in today's seven-inning game between the Royal and Dodger second squads, which was won by the Brooklyn outfit, 4-2.

Playing shortstop for the Farm-

hands, Robinson failed to get a hit in two appearances at bat. The other Negro player, pitcher John Wright, is not yet in shape to make a mound appearance.

With the Montreal squad moving in on the Dodgers' training quarters, Robinson and Wright will have living quarters at Bethune Cookman College, a school for Negroes at City Island Park, the grounds used by the Dodgers. *Thurs 3-7-46*

The third of a series between Brooklyn's first stringers and Montreal's A team resulted in a nine-inning 4-4 tie. A single by Lew Riggs scored the two tying runs for the Dodgers in the ninth.

RACE BARRIERS DOWN

New York Times

The exhibition baseball game between the Brooklyn Dodgers and their farm club the Montreal Royals, at Daytona Beach, Fla., Sunday was just another training camp game for most of the players. For Jackie Robinson, the Montreal second baseman, it was his first trial under fire. Robinson is a Negro. The game was the first time a Negro had appeared as such in a line-up of organized baseball since the Eighteen Eighties, when both Newark and Buffalo had Negro players. Men believed to have some Negro blood have played in recent years, but always under some such designation as "Cuban," "Mexican" or "Indian." No attempt has been made to disguise Robinson's racial heritage. On the contrary. He is a test case.

Negroes have appeared in practically all other divisions of organized games in this country. They are leading contenders on the track; Jesse Owens in his day was the greatest sprinter this country has produced. The present heavyweight champion is a Negro, Joe Louis. Many Northern high schools, colleges and universities have had Negro competitors in football, baseball, track and other sports. Until Branch Rickey signed Robinson to a Montreal contract last winter, modern baseball had abided by its unwritten law.

The crowd at Daytona Beach took Robinson's first appearance in a matter-of-fact manner, according to reports. There was friendly applause and no jeers. We hope Robinson makes a success of his effort. If the crowds that watch him in Montreal and elsewhere in International League cities will accept his presence as a matter of course, as did the Daytona Beach crowd of 4,000 another racial barrier will be down. *Wed. 3-20-46*

Montreal Signs Second Colored Diamond Star

Afro American, Baltimore, Md.

Johnny Wright, Homestead Gray Hurler to Get Try-Out With Dodger Farm Club

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — Johnny Wright, 27-year-old right-hander of the Homestead Grays, has been signed to a contract to play baseball with the Montreal Royals, a Brooklyn farm team, during the 1946 season. Announcement of Wright's signing was made Tuesday morning by Hector Racine, president of the Royals. Racine stated that Wright will report to the Daytona Beach camp for a try-out Mar. 1.

Johnny Wright

The signing of Wright makes him the second colored player to win a contract to enter organized baseball in the course of three months. Jackie Robinson, a shortstop, formerly of the Kansas City Monarchs, was signed on Oct. 23, 1945. *2-9-46*

Wright, recently discharged from the Navy, was born Nov. 28, 1918, in New Orleans, La., where in his early baseball career he was a kemp and cotton bag printer for his winter income. He weighs 165 pounds, stands 5 feet 11 inches and is rangy with an inclination toward slenderness. *2-9-46*

Very Popular

He has a likeable personality, having enjoyed tremendous popularity around the Negro National League, where he played first with the Newark Eagles and then with the Grays.

Possessed of fine control, Wright has a varied assortment of curves in which a sinker — a darting down-curve—has been the despair of opposing batsmen.

His best year with the Grays was 1943, when he won 25 games and lost 4 in Negro National League competition. In Griffith Stadium, where the Grays play their home contests, Wright won 13 games and lost 2, that year, eight of his victories coming in a row.

Beat Boston Braves

He was inducted into the Navy in early 1944, spent that summer at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, where he won 16 games and lost 2, and turned up with the best earned-run average of any pitcher in the armed forces, including Bob Feller, Virgil Trucks, etc., of the Cleveland Indians and Detroit Tigers, respectively.

He was transferred to the Brooklyn Navy Yard following the Washington edict that all-star service teams must be broken up. During the summer months of 1945, Wright hurled week ends with the Grays and was largely responsible for that team's entering the world series as champion of the Negro National loop. He won five and lost one during the late stages of the season.

While pitching for the Brooklyn tars, Wright hurled games against the Boston Braves and the Brooklyn Dodgers. He defeated the Braves, 7-5, but lost to the Dodgers when he was the victim of a ninth-inning home-run while leading the Flatbush crew, 4-3. The circuit clout came with a man on, thus cheating the new Dodger rookie of his second win over a major league team.

Wright has eight years of baseball behind him. He broke in with the Zulus, a local novelty nine, in 1936. He went to the Toledo Crawfords in 1937, then to Newark, and wound up with the Grays. *2-9-46*

Like Robinson, if Wright makes the grade he will be seen in action in Baltimore when the Royals invade for their annual series with the Orioles. Other cities in the International League are Newark, Buffalo, Toronto and Rochester.

Has Played with Whites

Also like Robinson, Wright has had experience playing with white teammates. Whereas Jackie spent his college days at University of California at Los Angeles, where he played football with the Bruins, Wright has been a member of two service teams that were dominated by white personnel.

Another similarity between the players' careers is that both answered the call to the flag, Jackie having served 31 months in the Army and Johnny having done his stint as a bluejacket.

For several months, while rumors were flying thick and fast about Wright's probable signing by Brooklyn, the player steadfastly refused to confirm them. He told friends in Washington, D.C., during a visit there last week, that there was no truth to the report.

This was due, more or less, to the fact that he had been asked to wait so that any announcement concerning the deal might come from the Montreal Royals club office.—SAM LACY.

Wright Sees Chance for More Players

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Johnny Wright, interviewed at his home here Tuesday, following announcement of his signing to play baseball with Montreal of the Brooklyn Dodgers farm system, was optimistic.

"I feel that there will be more and more colored boys getting a chance in professional sports now that the first step has been taken. I expect to keep trying to do my very best, because I know I only got this far by plugging."

He said, now that the doors are open, he thinks "there will be many others to follow me just as I followed Jackie Robinson into the sport."

Jackie Robinson Singles Twice

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Jackie Robinson, former Kansas City Monarchs shortstop, who has been shifted to second base on the Montreal Royals of the International League, hit safety twice on Tuesday in a game against the Brooklyn Dodgers of the National League. *Sat 4-13-46*

The Montreal club won 6 to 4. Robinson handled five chances perfectly. He seemed more sure of himself and the nervousness displayed in his early workouts with the Royals seems to have disappeared.

Robinson Doesn't Hit But Fields Well in Opener

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

Montreal Shortstop Candidate Impresses in Field; Daytona Sees History Made

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—Jackie Robinson, former star of the Kansas City Monarchs and now a shortstop candidate with the Brooklyn Dodgers' farm club, Montreal, failed to obtain a hit in two trips to the plate as he made his bow in an inter-club game here Wednesday.

Robinson connected solidly on each occasion but the ball would not fall safe. His team dropped the decision to the Dodger second-stringers, 4-2, in seven innings.

Robinson handled his chances afield without flaw during his four-inning stint, and otherwise won the praises of observers.

It marked the first time in history that a colored player had competed in a game representing a team in modern organized baseball, and, as far as is known, it was the first time Florida has watched colored and white participate in a baseball contest on an equal footing. *3-16-46*

AROUND AND ABOUT: Robinson and Johnny Wright, pitching candidate with the Montreal Royals, are living with the family of Joe Harris, a local real estate operator in Spruce Street.

The first time Robinson was dropped into the lineup by Manager Clay Hopper for infield drill, the ex-UCLA luminary fielded like a veritabl edemon and engaged in a teamlike chatter that helped make the practice one of the day's peppiest. *Sat.*

He was assigned to cover second in an infield which included Gil Newman, a veteran who played with the Royals in 1942 before entering the armed forces, at first base; Mel Pigg at shortstop, George Spears at third, and Guy Staples catching. Pigg and Spears are former GI's serving on recall to the Brooklyn chain and Staples is a holdover with the Royals.

Prior to entering the infield drill, Jackie and Wright had warmed up in a pepper game with none other than Montreal Manager Clay Hopper, himself.

When they were moved over to this city from Sanford, Jackie and Johnny joined the full Montreal squad for the first time. They donned brand new Royal uniforms (blazing white), with No. 25 on the back of the pitcher and No. 30 on Jackie.

Jackie Turns Down Mexican Offer

Journal & Guide, Norfolk, Va.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., (NNPA)—Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, virtually chased Senor R. Janis, a resident of Laredo, Tex., out of City Island Park, where the Dodgers are training, after he discovered the agent of the Mexican League in the stands last week.

OFFERED $6,000

Senor Janis previously had appeared at Kelly Field, the Montreal Royals' training ground, and had talked to Jackie Robinson in an attempt to lure the colored shortstop into the Mexican loop. He offered Jackie $6,000 per season, plus all expenses for himself and his wife. *Sat 3-30-46*

Robinson turned down the offer, saying he wouldn't accept "if they gave me the $500,000 they offered Ted Williams."

"He offered me all expenses, told me I could bring my wife down to Mexico with me and said he'd pay me $6,000 a year," Robinson said. "But I told him I wasn't interested. That I had too much at stake."

What They Said About Jackie

Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Joe Sheehan, N. Y. Times

JERSEY CITY—For the first time in the modern history of organized baseball, a Negro player received a chance to make good —and Jackie Robinson converted his opportunity into a brilliant personal triumph by leading the Montreal Royals to a 14 to 1 victory over the Jersey City Giants in the opening game of the International League season here.

ROBINSON TO GET TRIAL

James, New York, N.Y.

Montreal Infielder Will Train With Dodgers in 1947

MONTREAL, Aug. 12 (U.P.)— Jackie Robinson, the Montreal Royals' "test case" infielder, stood on the threshold of the major leagues today after overcoming injuries, rival pitchers and the racial barrier.

Robinson, who has been hitting .360 for the International League-leading Royals while fielding second base brilliantly, is ticketed for a 1947 spring trial with the parent Brooklyn Dodgers. His comeback from a spring season "flop" to a stretch-drive slugger is the principal reason why the Royals enjoyed a 14½-game lead up to tonight's game. *Tues 8-13-46*

Dodger President Branch Rickey, who broke a long-standing baseball precedent in signing Robinson last winter, probably would have called him up to aid his pennant-driving Dodgers next month, except that the Royals insisted he be available for their post-season Shaughnessy play-offs.

Robinson's Minor League Debut In Jersey Spectacular

By JOE BOSTIC

Like Spring in the hit song of that Broadway Musical, Jackie Robinson busted out all over in making the most spectacular individual bow since Andy Cohen's celebrated debut into organized baseball, last Thursday afternoon at Roosevelt Stadium in Jersey City as he led the Montreal Royals to 14-1 inaugural victory over the Jersey City Giants. Robbie in his precedent-establishing appearance as the first Negro to crack the ranks of organized baseball did everything but help the ushers seat the overflow crowd as he ran amuck both at bat, afield, and on the base paths.

He made a one-man show of the game, completely overshadowing the elaborate trappings arranged by Mayor Hague as a colorful side show.

Four Safe Smacks

His feats of derring-do include four safe smacks one of which was a 340 ft. homer poled out in the third over the left field wall; two filches of second base and a brazen burglary of third that was a definite snatch although it was entered officially in the score book as an advance on a tap by Tom Tatum; scored four runs, two of which came as gifts because his blinding speed unnerved two pitchers so much that they committed balks with him on third; handled five chances afield flawlessly; and just to round out the string, was charged with an error when he pegged bad to first, when he was the middle man in a potential double play.

A mild cheer greeted the announcement of Robbie's name when the public address system started blaring out the Montreal lineup. There was another courteous round of applause when he came to bat in the top half of the first There was no indication of the great day ahead here. Batting in the number two slot he worked Jersey hurler, Warren Sandell, to a full count before tapping a bouncing grounder to Jamie Allemandro at short and being tossed out at first.

Then That Homer

It was on his second appearance at the plate that he began to explode. With two mates aboard as the result of a walk and a single Jackie took a squint at Sandell's first pitch, a "fat" one down the middle in expectation of a bunt, dug in, and teed off with a prodigous swing. The ball hadn't travelled twenty five feet before it was apparent to the entire 25,000 observers in the stands that it was bound for far away land. And go all the way it did.

Jackie electrified the stands all afternoon with his well conceived daring on the base paths, and that same jet-propelled swiftness and irrepressible restlessness gave every pitcher who found him on the paths an acute case of jitters. There was no other way to account for the two balks made by heavers who "went" feinting breaks towards home and started throws only to think better there of after facing off to the batter.

Beats Out a Roller

His two pilferings of second were lulus but his base runing masterpiece of the afternoon came in the fifth. Leading off the inning he beat out a slow roller to third in a burst of speed that almost scorched the earth along the first base line. He stole second almost before first baseman Norman Jaeger had a chance to note that he had checked in there. After George Shuba flied out to short, Tom Tatum slammed one into the same slot. Robinson held second for a brief moment as Allemandro faked a throw to second. No sooner did the little Latin make his motion toward first than Jackie lit out for third looking like a streak of greased lightning. So perfect had been his gauging of the throw to first (he broke on the motion rather than waiting for the actual throw thus stealing an edge of about four steps) and his split second timing, that he made third standing up. In fact the throw from first never had a chance to get him.

Got Out Bad One

In playing his defensive position, the flashy former UCLAN operated with the smooth grace and astute know how of a long time player in grade A ball. Having gotten the bad one out of his system in the fifth when he tossed bad to first trying to cut down Clif Ray after he had taken a peg from Johnny Jorgenson to force out Allemandro, who had gotten on via a miscue at third, he played flawlessly.

In the very next frame he was on the front end of a lightning fast DP that retired the home side after Miggins had opened the chukker with a single followed by Wein's flyout. Bouknight shot one between first and secand which Jackie scoopped up with perfect motion and whipped to Stan Breard who completed the play with a sling shot peg to Tatum.

In on Two of 3 Outs

Jackie finished off his defensive day by having a hand in two of the three final Jersey outs in the ninth. Wein popped up to him at the start of the frame and Bouknight sent a bounder to him for out number two when he tossed to first. Bernie LaForge ended it by whiffing pinch hitter Eddie Kobesky.

Thus the most significant sports story of the century was written into the record books as baseball took up the cudgel for democracy and an unassuming but superlative Negro boy ascended the heights of excellence to prove the rightness of the experiment. And prove it in the only correct crucible for such an experiment—the crucible of white hot competition.

Which is another way of saying that Robinson proved the thing the hard way . . . And how he proved it, brother! ! !

What Robinson Did In Debut

First Inning

Second man up, he worked pitcher Warren Sandell for a 3-2 count and then grounded to short and was thrown out at 1st.

Second Inning

Could do no better than wave at Dick Bouknight's screeching single through hole between 1st and 2nd.

Third Inning

Leaned into Sandell's first pitch to drive a 340 ft. homer over the left field fence and scored two men ahead of him.

Fourth Inning

Was merely one of the nine men in the Montreal lineup.

Fifth Inning

Beat out a slow roller to third; stole 2nd and came home when he drew a balk from pitcher Phil Oates . . . Had his only error as middle man on double play when he threw low and wide to 1st after getting his man at 2nd.

Sixth Inning

Started double play that retired the side—Robinson to Breard to Tatum.

Seventh Inning

Singled to right; went to second when Shuba walked and scored on Tatum's single . . . Threw out Harpuder on grounder.

Eighth Inning

Singled off Andrews; stole second and went to third on a play to get Tom Tatum. Drew a balk and strolled home.

Ninth Inning

Took Russ Wein's fly for 1st out. Threw Dick Bouknight out at first after fielding his sharp grounder.

Watching Clock At the Ball Game

2:35—Robinson's name called with a Montreal lineup over the public address system drew curteous cheer.

2:50—Line up with members of both teams at the flagpoll and for the first time in history the national anthem really means something.

3:04—Robinson comes to bat first time . . . This is the long awaited moment which makes Branch Rickey move more than a gesture. For the first time in history a Negro not masquerading as something else is officially playing a game in organized baseball.

3:40—Slams his first homer in organized baseball . . . A walloping drive of nearly 350 ft. over the left field fence . . Warren Sandell was pitching.

4:10—Beats out first bunt

4:13—Steals first base p[illegible]ng up at 2nd with plenty to spare.

4:17—Scores first run on a balk by Phil Oates the victim.

4:12—Committed first error in career in organized ba[illegible] a low and wide throw trying to complete the tail end of a double play getting his man at second.

5:08—laid down first successful bunt.

5:12—Although just entering league set a record of some sort by scoring second [illegible]n in same game on a balk.

5:35—Gets hero treatment from about 200 kids of both races in tribute to his great day . . . This was in the real Babe Ruth manner.

5:50—To the showers to wind up a great day.

6:05—The best reward of all—a big, earnest kiss from his recent bride. She was glowing like a bursting sun flower over her hero husband but you detected some glistening moisture in her eyes that were tears of sheer joy.

Jackie Robinson boosts batting average to .347

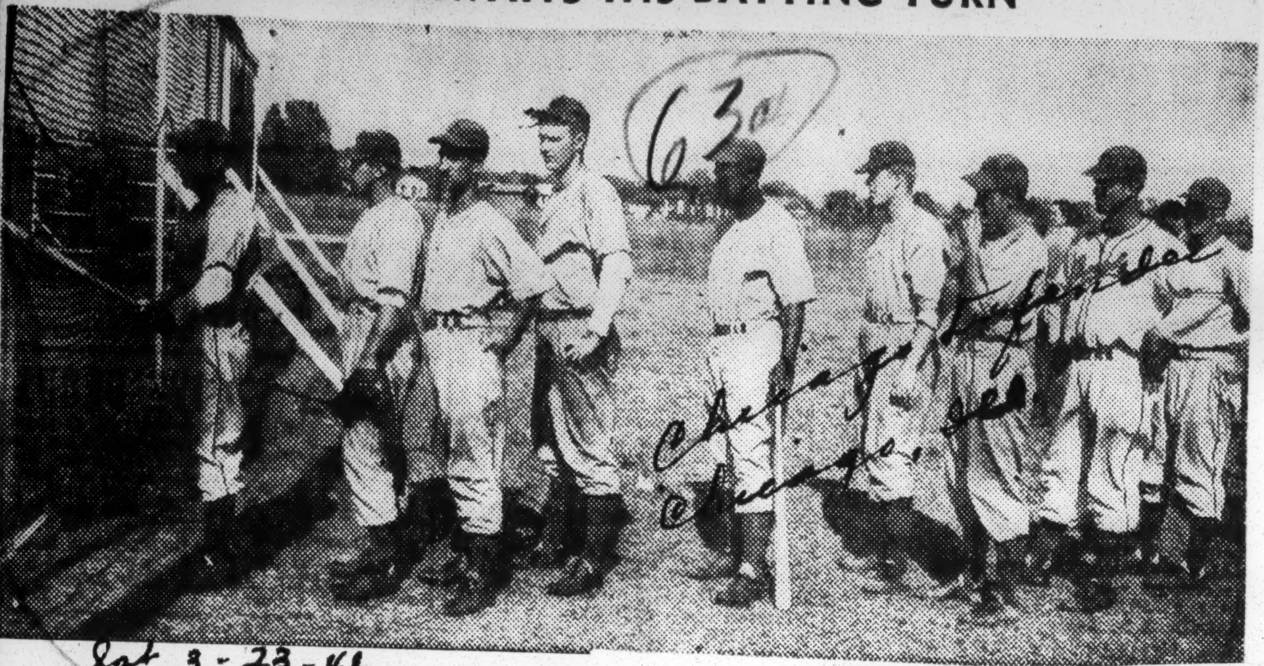
MONTREAL, Can.—Jackie Robinson, first Negro to be signed up by organized baseball, second baseman for the Montreal Royals, boosted his plump (.330) batting average to .347 last week, as the Royals held a 2½ game lead over Syracuse for the International League pennant.

Robinson's extra-base hits to date include a homer, two triples, and five doubles. His fielding is still middling, except for his double-play act with shortstop Alex Campanis, which has been good.

G	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	SB	PCT
36	124	35	43	[illegible]	17	17	.347

It's rumored that Dodger officials are seriously thinking of bringing Jackie Robinson up to Brooklyn before this season lets out—as infield insurance during the critical stretch drive ahead. Said story, however, has it that Robbie would be used at third and not second, where Stanky is currently going great guns (Stanky was benched yesterday because of an old spike wound). Third base is the weakest spot in Durocher's inner garden. Lavagetto is an aging vet who can't be depended upon to hold up indefinitely under the wear and tear. Rookie Ed Miksis is being tested at third base for the time being. Only time will tell how much there is to the rumor.

JACKIE ROBINSON AWAITS HIS BATTING TURN



Jackie Robinson, former UCLA track, football, basketball and baseball star and the first Negro to be signed by the major leagues in 50 years, is seen here with eight white candidates for the Montreal Royals, farm club of the Brooklyn Dodgers. The Montreal club is in the International League where Negroes played on teams back in the 1800s. Robinson played shortstop with the Kansas City Monarchs last year after his release from the Army where he was commissioned as a lieutenant. This photo was taken during the first batting practice in Sanford, Fla.—Press Association photo.

Negro Ace Leads Montreal Win With Homer, 3 Other Hits

By BILL MARDO

ROOSEVELT STADIUM, JERSEY CITY, N. J., April 18.—Almost everything he did was pure gold. And when the lopsided Montreal triumph over Jersey City ended at 5:30 tonight, hundreds of young American baseball fans stormed the Roosevelt Stadium infield and all but carried Jackie Robinson into the dugout.

It was only right. For the 26-year-old Negro had just completed one of the most sensational debuts any ball player ever made in any ball game. Robinson dazzled a capacity crowd of 25,000 by collecting four hits in five times at bat, one of which was a savage 335-foot liner over the left field wall; drove in four runs; scored four times; stole two bases; set up a speedy double-play; faultlessly handled six chances with but one wild throw to mar his work afield; and put on one of the most amazing exhibitions of base-running to be seen in this Jersey ball park in many, many years.

One word—Robinson—was on everybody's lips as they excitedly filed out of the Jersey ball park. Nobody was thinking of the 14-1 shellacking which the Montreal Royals had handed the Little Giants in the International League opener today. Nobody thought too long about the fine eight-hitter twirled by the Royal's Bernie De Forge. No, none of it mattered on this memorable occasion, because this day, April 18, belonged to Jackie Robinson . . . and all the progressive forces who fought so tirelessly to drive a wedge into baseball's Jimcrow ban.

A friendly roar filled Roosevelt Stadium as Robinson's name was announced on his first turn at bat in the opening inning. Lead-off hitter Marvin Rackley had grounded out, and, as a little batboy handed Jackie his willow, the husky Negro stepped out of the batter's circle and strode confidently to the plate. Southpaw Warren Sandel threw one wide and Jackie fouled it off behind the catcher. Robinson worked the count to 3-2 before Sandel retired him on a grounder from short to first. That was the only time today Jackie failed at the plate. What he accomplished on four succeeding occasions was more than enough to make up for it.

The Negro second-sacker officially inaugurated his grand debut in the third inning. With Barney De Forge and Marv Rackley on first and second, via a walk and single, Robinson came to bat. Keenly eyeing the southpaw Sandel as he went into his windup, Robinson waited for just a split second before the fast, outside pitch broke, and then rammed it on a line over the left-field wall for a 335-foot circuit clout. A magnificent ovation followed Jackie as he rounded the bases, and the entire Montreal team rushed out of the dugout to pump his hand as he crossed the home-plate.

Robinson's amazing base-running came into evidence in the fifth inning. Jackie had led-off with a nifty bunt along the third-base line which he beat out with astonishing speed. The next batter, Mike Schuba, popped up and Robinson dashed back to first on the hit-and-run. Then, with first-sacker Tom Tatum at the plate, Robinson scooted to second with a steal that wasn't even close even though he slid into the bag. What happened next was truly unbelieveable. Tatum poked the next pitch on the ground to short, Robinson taunted and feinted him half way between second and third, and then when the puzzled shortstop finally made his peg to first Jackie sprinted to third and the relay attempt to nip him didn't have a chance. Robinson's toes are obviously tipped with mercury, no mortal can run that fast. To make the one-man show complete, Robinson took a risky lead off third, drove the pitcher crazy until he committed a balk, and was waved home by the umpire.

But that was only the beginning. Again in the seventh stanza, after Rackley had flied out, Robinson came to bat, picked a 3-2 pitch off relief hurler Phil Oates and drove it sharply into right-field for his third hit of the day. No sooner did the Jersey City twirler prepare to face the next batter and Jackie was off again! His legs churning with the speed of light, the well-set infielder stole second base, slid into third on Schuba's single, and scored on Jorgensen's triple.

Robinson collared his fourth hit in the eighth inning with men on first and second. Jackie pushed down an eye-filling bunt that dribbled beautifully between the pitcher and third-base, Breard scoring as Jackie easily tore into first. On Tatum's single, the feather-footed Negro went all the way to third and scored when Jersey City's third pitcher, Herb Andrews, committed a balk which this time, truthfully enough, wasn't due to Robinson's fenting shennanigans.

Except for a wild throw to first in the fifth inning, Robinson handled himself spotlessly afield. In the six stanza he took Bucknight's sharp grounder, pivoted perfectly on a throw to Breard which caught the runner coming into second, and Breard tossed a strike to catch Bucknight at first and thus completed the double-play which Robinson had set-up. The seventh inning saw Robbie scoop Harpuder's drive out of the dirt and nip him at first. He handled two more chances in the ninth.

That was all, Montreal walked off the field 14-1 winners; and Jackie Robinson was cheered all the way to the dougout.

Negro Ballplayers

Sirs: *Time Chicago, Ill.*

Your story on Jackie Robinson [TIME, Aug. 26] says: "It was the first time a Negro had ever played Class AA ball without being passed off as a Cuban," etc.

This tends to create the impression that Negroes have in the past played AA baseball as Cubans or Mexicans. If this is the case, can you name a specific instance?

BOB BERRELLEZ
News Editor

Nogales Daily *Herald*
Nogales, Ariz.

¶ For one, Charley Grant, secondbaseman of the old Baltimore Orioles, who passed as an Indian.—ED.

tinued his fine performance at the plate. In seven games last week, six of which the Royals won, Jackie obtained 10 hits in 24 times at bat, including three doubles and a triple.

He also figured in five double-plays and stole three bases.

History in the Ballpark

APRIL 18, 1946 will go down as a historic day in the long fight against Jimcrow in American life.

On that sunny Thursday afternoon a young man named Jack Robinson trotted out onto the diamond at Roosevelt Stadium, Jersey City, before 25,000 fans to become the first Negro in organized professional baseball. For non-baseball fans who don't understand the jargon, let's just say Jackie was the outstanding ball player on the field.

To Montreal and its parent club, the Brooklyn Dodgers—congratulations for taking the first big step in removing the quotation marks from around "America's National Pastime." As for the other clubs in organized baseball—we suggest they take a good look at the pictures of Robinson crossing the plate after his home run, with his outstretched hand being cordially shaken by another Montreal player, the whole Montreal team rushing jubilantly from the dugout with congratulations and 25,000 Jersey City fans (by far the largest attendance in the league) on their feet cheering.

There is the story—the true story of American sportsmanship, which knows a man by what he has on the ball, not by his color or creed.

Finally congratulations to the progressive Americans who backed up the campaign to end Jimcrow launched by the Daily Worker sport page ten years ago. We pledge to continue the fight until the last shameful vestige of discrimination is wiped from our ball fields.

Jackie Steadies Montreal Defense

MONTREAL—The pace-setting Montreal Royals, deprived of their star shortstop of the 1945 campaign, Stan Breard, turned to Jackie Robinson this week for a steadying influence in their inner defenses.

Jackie, playing errorless ba[ll] himself and proving the best pivo[t] man in the International League has helped Al Campanis, Breard['s] replacement to become a depend[able] able shortfielder. Robinson though a first-year performer him[self], has schooled Campanis o[n] the playing of batters and in the the intricate assignments of vary[ing] ing double-play situations.

In addition, Robbie has con-

DUROCHER PRAISES JACKIE'S PLAYING AGAINST DODGERS

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

By WENDELL SMITH

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—Three thousand rabid fans turned out here this afternoon (Sunday) and saw another glorious page of baseball history written when Jackie Robinson trotted out on the fertile turf of picturesque Island Park with the Montreal Royals to battle Leo Durocher's No. 1 team of Brooklyn Dodgers. It was the first time in history that a Negro player had appeared on the field of this city-owned park as a member of a white team.

Although the Dodgers did the expected and dealt the fighting Minor Leaguers a 7 to 2 lacing, the interest in the contest centered around the stocky bronze second baseman from Pasadena, Calif. For a number of days there was some skepticism as to whether or not Robinson would be permitted to perform on the big field, situated in the heart of Daytona. But no objections were raised in any quarter when the flashy sepia player took his position at the Keystone spot. Robinson, the most talked about player in baseball today, played five innings and was given a rousing reception when he stepped to the plate in the second inning. Saturday

Six thousand eyes were glued on the mercury-footed infielder each time he came to bat. His performance with the willow failed to provide any thrills but, nevertheless, his vicious swings and air of confidence as he faced real Major League pitching for the first time, won the admiration of a crowd that seemed to sense the historical significance of the occasion. 3-23-46

Playing under a torrid sun and before a mass of shirt-sleeved spectators, Robinson failed to get a safety in three trips to the plate. He did, however, manage to get on his third time at bat and eventually scored one of the Royals' two runs.

The first time up he fouled to Billy Herman at third. The second time he popped up along the first base line and Catcher Dixie Howell made the putout. After those two futile efforts, Jackie managed to get on the base paths when Shortstop Pee Wee Reese elected to tag Howie Schultz at second. Robinson was across first before Reese could even attempt a throw for a double play.

On the next pitch, "Robbie" took off like a "California Clipper" and slid into second safely, easily beating Howell's peg to Second Baseman Stan Rojek. A moment later, he scored Montreal's second and last marker when he "sailed" home on Carl Anderson's single to center. He returned to second for the fifth inning and after that Manager Clay Hopper turned the chores over to Ray Rochelli for the rest of the afternoon.

CROWD GIVES HAND Sat

Most gratifying demonstration of the day, however, was the response of the crowd of Southern fans. They proved to be good sportsmen and gave Robinson an encouraging ovation the first time he came to bat. The crowd adopted a sympathetic attitude toward the obviously nervous Negro second sacker and almost to a man applauded him when he came to the plate. Not even such established big leaguers as Dixie Walker, Pee Wee Reese or Billy Herman received a more enthusiastic reception from the stands.

It definitely proved that baseball fans, whether in North or South, appreciate talent and will not hesitate to give credit where credit is due. There were no insulting epithets or familiar "nicknames" hurled at Robinson from the stands or the Brooklyn bench. He was accepted as just another ball player. There was no difference in this crowd than those he performed before last year as a member of the Kansas City Monarchs. 3-23-46

After the game, Manager Leo Durocher commented enthusiastically: "Although Robinson didn't get a hit today, he looked like a real ball player out there. Don't forget he was under terrific pressure. He was cast in the middle of a situation that neither he nor the fans here had ever experienced before. But he came through like a champion. He's a ball player. He's fast, a good thinker and has the making of a topnotcher."

Jackie's lone field chance came in the fourth when he scooped up a "grass cutter" and tossed to Shortstop Stan Breard to force Billy Herman at second.

John Wright, the Negro hurling candidate of Montreal, watched the game from the stands.

Robinson Third in Loop Batting

The Afro-American

MONTREAL — Jackie Robinson, star Montreal second baseman, who paced the International League batting parade with a sizzling .357 last week, by Saturday had dropped to .349 and a third-place dead lock with Eddie Robinson, Baltimore Oriole first sacker.

At Buffalo on July 4, Jackie rapped out three singles, drove in two runs and figured in a sparkling double play as the Royals bowed to the Bisons, 11-7 in the first game of a double bill. He did not play in the second game which the Royals won, 10-4. Sat. 7-13-46

Back here on Friday, Robinson, scored one run and drove in one as the Royals blanked Toronto, 4-0

Jackie Hits Homer, Scores 4 Runs as Royals Win First

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

By WENDELL SMITH, Sports Editor

JERSEY CITY, N. J. — Rising majestically from the drab stage of training camp mediocrity to a blinding awe-inspiring opening day brilliance, Jolting Jackie Robinson, the "California Comet," looms tonight (Thursday) as the newest and most spectacular satellite to blaze across the International League baseball heavens in a decade. For here this afternoon on the silken turf of Roosevelt Stadium his debut in the ranks of Organized Baseball was such a dazzling and spectacular performance that it left 25,000 roaring fans limp and bewildered as he led the Montreal Royals to a devastating 14 to 1 victory over the game, but outclassed Jersey City Giants.

MONTREAL (14)	ab	r	h	po	a	e
Rackley,cf	5	2	1	4	0	0
Robinson,2b	5	4	4	2	3	1
Shuba,lf	4	1	0	3	0	0
Tatum,1b	5	2	3	8	0	0
Durrett,rf	5	2	2	2	0	0
Jorgenson,3b	5	1	2	3	2	1
Franks,c	3	0	0	3	1	0
Breard,ss	5	1	3	2	2	1
Deforge,p	2	1	0	0	2	0
Totals	39	14	15	27	10	3

JERSEY CITY (1)	ab	r	h	po	a	e
Almendro,ss	4	0	0	1	4	0
Ray,rf	3	1	0	3	0	0
Thompson,cf	4	0	2	3	0	0
Jaeger,1b	4	0	1	8	3	0
Knick'rbocker,lf	4	0	1	1	0	0
Miggins,3b	4	0	2	0	2	0
Wein,2b	4	0	0	4	2	0
Bouknight,c	4	0	1	6	0	0
Sandel,p	1	0	1	0	0	0
Oates,p	1	0	0	0	0	0
a-Harpuder	1	0	0	0	0	0
Andrews,p	0	0	0	1	0	0
b-Kobesky	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	35	1	8	27	11	0

a-Batted for Oates in 7th.
b-Batted for Andrews in 9th.

MONTREAL	0	2	4	0	1	0	3	3	1—14
JERSEY CITY	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0— 1

Runs batted in—Durett 2, Robinson 4, Jaeger, Jergenson 2, Tatum, Breard. Two-base hits—Sandel, Jaeger, Knickerbocker, Jorgenson. Three-base hits—Jorgenson. Home runs—Durrett 2, Robinson. Stolen bases—Robinson 2. Sacrifices—DeForge 2. Double plays—Alemendro-Wein-Jaeger; Robinson-Breard-Tatum. Left on base—Montreal 5, Jersey City 8. Base on balls—Sandel 2, Oates 2, Andrews 1. Strikeouts—Sandel 1, DeForge 4, Oates 3, Andrews 1. Hits—Off Sandel, 5 in 2⅔ innngs; Oates, 5 in 4⅓; Andrews, 5 in 2. Hit by pitcher—By DeForge (Ray). Balks—Oates, Andrews. Winning pitcher—DeForge (1-0). Losing pitcher—Sandel (0-1). Umpires—Gore, Robb and Zelber. Time—2:31. Attendance 51,872. 4-27-46

With the hopes of fourteen million Negroes resting on his big, broad shoulders, Jackie Robinson, the ex-college hero and pride of the famous Kansas City Monarchs, proved that "class tells in the stretch" as he paced Montreal's fifteen-hit attack and led the Royals to their initial victory of the 1946 season before Mayor Frank Hague and a colorful opening day throng. Sat.

Robinson entered the fray with a big question mark dangling over his bronze, curly head. Manager Clay Hopper assigned him to second base, but there was no certainty that he was there permanently because there was still some doubt as to whether or not he was equal to the task.

STEALS THE SHOW

But all doubt was removed this afternoon as Robinson stole the show from more established stars. He belted a mighty home run, socked a whistling single to center, laid down two perfect bunts, scored four runs, drove in four more, stole two bases and absolutely demoralized a team that was known for its steadiness and machine-like performances.

In the field he handled five chances perfectly, and booted another just to prove, perhaps, that even the best are susceptible to errors and miscues when the chips are down and history is being made.

Mayor Frank Hague, the "King" of Jersey City, developed a great show for the opening day throng. He had tumblers, shapely lassies, and a big band on hand to entertain the overflow throng, but not even Barnum and Bailey could have out-done Robinson, who put on a one-man show that will be long remembered here in Jersey City.

RECEIVES OVATION

When Jackie walked to the plate as the second hitter in the initial inning, he received a great round of applause from the Jersey City fans. The best he could do, however, was produce a sharply hit ball to short and he was promptly thrown out. In the third inning, however, with the Royals leading, 2-0, the result of a home run blow in the second by Red Durrett with Herman Franks on first base, Robinson belted a 335-foot home run over the leftfield fence with Pitcher Barney DeForge on second and Outfielder Marvin Rackley on first. It was a mighty wallop and a hit that may very easily determine his future in Organized Baseball.

That lusty wallop seemed to have inspired Robinson on to greater feats. In the fourth inning he laid down a perfect third base bunt and beat it out. He then stole second, beating the throw by the proverbial mile.

He moved to third on Tom Tatum's infield out and then, by faking a steal of home from the hot corner, forced Pitcher Warren Sandel to balk in the middle of an ordinary windup. He was waved home by the arbiters and thereby chalked up the seventh Montreal run. In the seventh, he got his third hit, a sharp hit to left center, stole second again, moved to third on Tatum's single, and trotted home on Jorgenson's triple to right.

He scored his fourth run and Montreal's thirteenth marker in the eighth after crossing up the Jersey infield with a perfect bunt down the third base line. He moved to third on Tatum's infield hit, and scored a moment later when Oates balked. It was the second time during the game that he had scored from third on a balk; establishing some kind of a record for an opening day game.

In the meantime, his teammates were teeing off on Jersey City pitching. Red Durrett, late of the Brooklyn Dodgers, socked two circuit blows over the rightfield fence, and Tatum and Stan Breard, flashy little shortstop, connected for three hits in five times at bat.

Barney DeForge, cagey right-hand pitcher, kept eight Jersey hits well scattered, and if it hadn't been for Robbie's bad throw on a double-play ball in the fifth, after Breard had bobbled one on a previous chance, the "Little Giants" would have been shut out.

In the field, Jackie handled five chances at his second base post. His error was committed when he hurried his throw while attempting to pivot on a double play. He made up for that in the very next inning, however, when he started a double play that ended successfully. 4-27-46

BASE RUNNING THRILLS

It was his sensational base running, however, that upset the Jersey City team and amazed the fans. His great speed enabled him to beat out two well laid bunts. He promptly stole second each time, and his daring forced Jersey catchers to throw poorly. In both instances, Robinson stole second with room to spare.

Jackie's not-too-sensational performances in Florida during the spring training seige were completely obliterated here as he romped and roamed all over the field, and hit ilke a major league slugger.

As the 25,000 fans edged out of the big park after the game, the conversation was all about Robinson. They all agreed that he has what it takes, and only a decided reversal in form can keep him from making the big leagues within the near future.

Meantime, the happy, bronze second sacker of Montreal received the plaudits of the crowd modestly and attributed his opening day performance to sheer luck and some "very special prayers" he recited before game time.

Robinson Won't Be Disappointed If Montreal Royals Farm Him Out

By ALVIN MOSES

JACKIE ROBINSON SPEAKS

NEW YORK — (ANP) —The other day, a voice that promises to revolutionize organized baseball's history was heard once again. The owner of it was Jackie Robinson, 27-year-old, 190 pound all-around athletic star who gained undying fame in four major sports at the University of California at Los Angeles.

I WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED

The hopes of millions of dark-complexioned Americans that Robinson might in his freshman (in big league) year win the shortstop berth with the Montreal Royals of the International league appear wrapped up in Robinson's statement to white newspaper writers at the Sanford, Fla. practice field. Asked pointedly whether he felt he was capable of beating out the half-dozen crack candidates for the shortstop post Jackie said:

"I won't be disappointed if they farm me out. I'm here to play ball, and I'll play wherever they send me. I've played in the Negro leagues, but I don't know whether they are as fast as the International. And I know there are many good players here, fellows that have been around for some time and have experience."

Questioned about his hitting and the baseball he's played for the past winter in Venezuela, Robinson was equally vocal to wit: "I am a little overweight having laid off the past two months and I now weigh 190. I hope to get down to 180, that's my playing weight. I don't go in for long hits. I guess you'd call me a line-drive hitter. I pull the ball pretty well though, and perhaps with instruction, I'll pick up added power. I've never had any actual instruction in the game. So far I've had to pick up everything on my own.'

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FROM BOX-OFFICE VIEWPOINT

When Jackie reached the playing field his first reaction to scores of questions caused him to exclaim: "Well, this is it!" Branch Rickey, Sr. aside from being idealistic and a believer in the truism that each man should have his true opportunity in life, strikes me as being a hard-bitten business man. The fact that Robinson has stated that he will "play anywhere they send me," doesn't leave out the more important consideration that Rickey would rather have him in the Montreal lineup than any other shortstop in the minors just now. Fans will come out to see Robinson as they did when Jewish and Italian ball players were curiosities under the big tent. Should the UCLA phenom turn out to be a winning ball player, the Royals will be tremendous box-office attractions the circuit over with the possible exception of Baltimore.

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PLAYERS TREATED SWELL

Wright has been sort of under a bushel but that was to be expected. However, both he and Robinson met warm and cordial handshakes their first day in camp. Knowing Johnny Wright as I do, I shouldn't be at all surprised if this twirler with the buggy-whip arm goes quietly and efficiently along in the business of making the team this year. Wendell Smith, Pittsburgh Courier sportswriter, is on deck and has made quite a few headline notices as sort of liasion between the two star athletes and members of the white press. Time alone holds the answer to the question which is popped to me everytime I walk through Harlem's streets: "Will the first two Negro ball players since 1886 to come into the International league, be able to make the grade in their maiden debut?"

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THE MELTIN' POT

I would have liked Robinson to have said precisely what he told them months back when the news of his signing struck the sport world like the atom bomb did Hiroshima. There was not the slightest note of doubt in that blast. it was the sort of challenging note evidenced by 16-year-old Mel Ott, when the late John McGraw brought the farmboy up to "bigtown" from Gretna, La. Fellow teammates will find Wright and Robinson hale fellows blessed with rare senses of humor. Given half the chance the average white rookie has, I'd say that both Robinson and Wright will stick with Montreal throughout the '46 campaign.

In this corner

Daily Worker New York, 7/1/46

'Robinson Can't Miss,' Says Deacon Rickey

By Bill Mardo

A newspaperman friend tells us that Branch Rickey was glued to the radio last Thursday for an account of the Montreal-Jersey City opener. And when Jackie Robinson connected for the homer heard around the world, the Dodger deacon dashed into the Ebbets Field press coop to so inform the scribes. We are told Rickey reiterated anew his belief that "Robinson can't miss!" *Tues 4-23-46*

Which could be another way of saying Jackie will be his second-baseman next season.

The talented Negro star continued to hit well Sunday when the Royals opened their series against Newark. Although Montreal lost the twin bill, Robbie rammed out a triple in the opener and led the Royal batsmen in the nitecap with a double and single in four times at bat.

* * *

BRANCH RICKEY

News is out now that Roy Campanella, and not Robinson, was the first Negro signed to a Dodger contract. Rickey had Campy's signature affixed to a Nashau contract at least two weeks before Robinson was hired for the Royals. And while Jackie knew of the Campanella signing, he was pledged to secrecy by Rickey, who preferred to lead off publicly with Robinson.

Tues 4-23-46

Mrs. Rachel Robinson, who's pretty enough to win a secret away from anyone, told us that even she was ignorant of the news. "And I always thought Jackie couldn't keep a secret," she laughingly told us at Roosevelt Stadium the other day.

In this corner

Daily Worker New York

Thurs 3-21-46

Jackie Robinson Raps Out Another Hit

By Bill Mardo

As usual, most newspapers missed the real story behind the appearance put in at Daytona Beach yesterday by a scout for the Mexico League. Both Jackie Robinson and Dixie Walker were offered lucrative contracts to jump the Flock fold. But the press made much fuss of the fact that Branch Rickey hustled Senor Jaimez off the Dodger premises with typical Rickian dramatics.

But there was something far more newsworthy about the entire incident. Namely, Jackie Robinson's polite reply to the $6,000 Mexico proposition: "I have too much at stake here."

JACKIE ROBINSON

It's not the first time Jackie's stressed that money is no object with him right now. Nobody knows what figure Robinson signed at — and he's steadfastly refused to reveal the sum. The reason is both obvious and correct. The first Negro player in modern organized baseball doesn't want anyone to make an issue of his financial status with the Dodgers—when the real issue at stake is so much more vital.

This won't ever register in the box scores, but chalk up another hit for the keenly conscious Jackie Robinson.

* * *

The New York Times finally did their famed slogan some justice yeesterday by publishing an editorial fit to print. It lauded Jackie Robinson's debut against the Dodgers last Sunday at Daytona's City Island Park, and reminded its readers of the contributions Negroes have made "in practically all other divisions of organized games in this country.

The Times editorial concluded: "The crowd at Daytona Beach took Robinson's first appearance in a matter-of-fact manner, according to reports. There was friendly applause and no jeers. We hope Robinson makes a success of his effort. If the crowds that watch him in Montreal and elsewhere in International League cities will accept his presence as a matter of course, as did the Daytona Beach crowd of 4,000, another racial barrier will be down."

No further comment needed. *Thurs. 3-21-46*

* * *

Pro basketball in the midwest crashed the headlines recently with the fabulous signing of George Mikan by the Chicago American Gears. The former DePaul center who put his name to a five-year $60,000 contract, made his debut with the Gears two nights ago and racked up 17 points in little less than one-half hour of play.

While there have been many college stars who could never adjust themselves to the professional brand of play, Mikan is so much more than just another big pivot operator that we feel he can't miss making good. He's got the speed of a lightweight, the hustle and fight of a heavy, and the scoring eye of . . . well, of George Mikan.

Bet you think we're sold on the boy.

* * *

That Joe McCarthy's squad isn't what you'd call overloaded in reserve strength, was highlighted by the serious finger injury sustained by Joe Gordon in an accidental spiking during the Bronxites' game with the Cardinals.

The Flash may be out of action for a good several weeks—and the only men McCarthy has as replacements for Gordon are: Tony Sabor, a none-too-spectacular converted outfielder; oldie Frank Crosetti, or Oscar Grimes.

But perish the thought that Larry MacPhail might be moved to bolster his team with really competent reserve power . . . like a few Negro infielders we can think of.

Maybe MacPhail can't be convinced to take that step voluntarily—but there are other ways to press it home to the Great Liberal. As the progressives of this city will well remind him upon his return to New York.

Jackie at 2nd, Royals Lose to Brooklyn, 7-2

Afro American

Baltimore, Md.

Southerners See Colored Man Playing With Whites for First Time in State's History

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—The campaign for colored integration into big league baseball passed another milestone here Sunday as 4,000 fans turned out to see the Montreal Royals, with their colored infield candidate, Jackie Robinson, lose to the Brooklyn Dodgers, 7-2, in an exhibition game.

Robinson, former UCLA all-round star and last year member of the Kansas City Monarchs, played for six innings, the first time in the history of Florida that a colored man has engaged in professional competition with white performers. Jackie played at second base and fielded flawlessly.

He failed to obtain a hit in three times at bat but scored a run. On his third time at bat, in the sixth inning, Robinson reached first base on a force play at second, stole second and later scored one of his team's two tallies.

His first time at bat, Robinson flied out to Billy Herman. On his second trip, he fouled to Catcher Dixie Howell, and on his third appearance at the plate, he grounded sharply to Herman who threw to second for the force-out.

Jackie Applauded

Approximately 1000 colored fans were on hand for the affair, overtaxing the inadequate jim-crow stands at City Island Park. The stand, erected to accommodate 750, forced more than 200 to stand in the field in back of the right-field foul line. *Sat 3-23-46*

Robinson was applauded on each trip to the plate, giving an indication to Dodger officials that he will not be too badly received by the fans when he makes the rounds of International League parks, provided he makes the Royal squad.

John Wright, pitcher, and second colored player being tried out by the Dodger farm club, was in uniform but did not see action.

As predicted by the AFRO three weeks ago, Jackie's bow in an official game was in the role of a second baseman. Last year's regular shortstop, Stan Breard, occupied that position during Sunday's tilt

White Mates Remain Loyal to Two Montreal Stars

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Royals' Officials, Players Stick by Jackie, Wright Despite Dixie Pressure

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—Although anti-colored sentiment in the training camp appears to be steadily mounting, officials and players of the Montreal Royals have shown a definite determination to stick by their two stars, Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright, infield and pitching candidates respectively.

Acting under the instructions of Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, parent club of the Royals, Mel Jones, secretary of Montreal, has agreed to cancel any game in which Southern city officials demand the ousting of Robinson and Wright from the lineup.

"We don't care if we fail to play another single exhibition game," Jones declared late last week following the cancellation of the third Montreal game in a week.

Sat 4-6-46

Phone Hung Up

"Our boys are in pretty good shape," he said, "and if they don't want to play us with our full team then they can pull out of the games."

Jones's assertion came on the heels of the calling off of Thursday's scheduled game with Jersey City at Jacksonville. The Royals had journeyed to the city to fulfill their engagement only to find the ball park locked up. A Mar. 24 game at the same place had been ruled out by George Robinson, head of city parks, on the basis of an ordinance banning mixed athletics.

Having had no previous word from either Jacksonville or Jersey City team authorities, Jones sought an explanation by telephone on his arrival. The phone was hung up on him.

Paper "Explains"

The Jacksonville Times-Union virtually confirmed the belief the cancellation was due to the presence of Robinson and Wright.

It said: "Montreal insists on using one or both their Negro ball players in the game here against Jersey City, according to the latest advices, after it had been understood these athletes would not be used in the game today."

Incidentally, Wright had been slated to pitch the Jersey City game.

That the policy of bucking Southern bigotry is not a mere gesture or an appeal for a favorable Northern press is indicated in the treatment both boys have been receiving in training camp.

Robinson and Wright are being handled the same as the other players. Both have received private instruction as well as group lessons, and the players have been pitching to them the same as to the other batters.

The best example of how the team has warmed up to the pair is shown in the change that has come over the entire camp.

During the early days of the training campaign, there was an unmistakable aloofness on the part of several candidates. A majority of these were Southerners.

In recent weeks, though, there has been no noticeable effort on the part of any man in camp to avoid his colored teammates.

Won't Have Excuse

A case in point is that of one particular player whose name is withheld for obvious reasons. He steadfastly refused in the opening weeks to be caught in a picture with either Robinson or Wright. Lately, he has taken every opportunity to offer valuable hints to them.

Sat 4-6-46

This is the attitude which prevails throughout the camp and both Robinson and Wright told the AFRO recently that they would have no excuses if they fail to make the grade.

"All the fellows seem to be pulling for us," said Robbie, "and if we don't make the team it will be because we are unable to do as well as the other members of the club."

ROBINSON GETS A HIT; ROYALS LOSE

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

Sat 4-6-46

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—Jackie Robinson, improving every day played flawless ball afield and came through with one of the seven hits off three St. Paul pitchers here Saturday, but Montreal bowed to the Saints, 3 to 1, before a sparse crowd of 1,500.

Robbie, though, couldn't come through with the hit that would have tied the game in the ninth. There were two out and men on second and third when he came up in the final frame. But the best he could do was to lift a long fly to left, ending the game.

In the seventh, though, he dropped a perfect bunt down the third base line and beat it out with a burst of blazing speed. In the fifth, he grounded out to Basinski at second. His first time up in the second, he flied to right.

PRAISED BY RICKEY

He drew the praise of Branch Rickey, Dodger president, who watched the game from a box seat, however.

'He'll hit," said Rickey, "and he'll be quite a ball player. I'm sure of that. The only question is his arm. I only hope it comes around."

The Sportswriters Cheer for Jackie

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Sat 4-20-46

Here are some excerpts from the New York press' reportage on Jackie Robinson's historic debut in organized ball at Jersey City Thursday:

THE TIMES: "For the first time in the modern history of organized baseball, a Negro player received a chance to make good today—and Jackie Robinson converted his opportunity into a brilliant personal triumph by leading the Montreal Royals to a 14-1 victory . . .

"Performing before a capacity throng of 25,000, the 26-year-old UCLA graduate, a four-sport star in college, who attained the rank of first lieutenant in the Army Air Forces, left little doubt that he has the innate ability to succeed in a field up to this time barred to members of his race. . . . Eloquent as they were, the cold figures of the box score do not tell the whole story. He looked, as well as acted, the part of a real ball player and on the base paths was a positive demon."

THE TRIBUNE: ". . . completely stole the show and the hearts of 25,000 fans today as he led Montreal to a 14-1 triumph . . ."

ASSOCIATED PRESS (Used in Post, Telegram, Sun and Journal): ". . . Jackie Robinson waded through the puddles in the Montreal shower today, shaking hands with well wishers who were congratulating him on becoming the first Negro to break into modern organized baseball. It reminded Robinson of the days when he played football for UCLA. "Don't think I didn't like it," he told the AP.

"Across the river in Flatbush, Branch Rickey of the parent Brooklyn Dodgers, was beaming, too. It wasn't just coincidence that Robinson's 335 foot homer was headed in the general direction of Ebbet Field." Sat 4-20-46

PM (Joe Cominsky): "It's a greater day than ever here today, for not only Robbie and his race, but for the whole American scene. The fans—and you know baseball fans—had completely forgotten the color of his skin and were buzzing with the great impression he was making as a player. He carried the hope, the heart of his race and all free-thinking men with him. And he carried it mighty well."

Jackie in Action Again Today

The Montreal Royals weren't scheduled yesterday. Today they meet Jersey City again at the Roosevelt Stadium in their second International League game.

Picture Magazine Pays Tribute To Royal Jackie

Houston, Texas
The Informer

NEW YORK — The life of Jackie Robinson, brilliant athlete, and the first Negro player to be signed by organized baseball, is the subject of one of the leading articles appearing in the April issue of Picture News, newest of the Comics magazines, which is devoted exclusively to current news events and true human interest features. 3-19-46

The story, titled "The California Flash," was written by Charles Wessell, nationally known sports authority. It traces Jackie's athletic career from his college days when he starred on the University of California at Los Angeles' football team, won the national broad jump title, and scored victories in basketball. During the war, he was a lieutenant in the armed forces. Last fall, Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, made baseball history by signing Robinson for the Dodgers International League Farm Club, the Montreal Royals. Tues.

The article pays tribute to the great Negro athletes who have won sport honors for the United States all over the world, and expresses the hope that more Negroes will be signed for professional baseball.

Picture News has received wide praise for its vigorous editorial policy in behalf of racial equality. It is published by Leigh Dannenberg, owner of the Bridgeport Herald, and edited by Emile Gauvreau, pioneer tabloid newspaper editor. John Armas Lehti is the art director.

Jacksonville Jim Crow Halts Game

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., (NNPA)—An exhibition game between the Jersey City Giants and the Montreal Royals scheduled to be played here last Sunday was cancelled last Saturday by order of George Robinson, executive secretary of the Playground and Recreational Commission here.

Robinson said that "rules, regulations and policies of the Jacksonville Playground and Recreation Board prohibit mixed contestants in athletic events on their facilities.

Jackie Robinson and John Wright, the first colored players signed by major leagues, have been training with the Royals in Florida and have played in mixed games in other cities in this State.

Secretary Robinson notified Charles Stoneham, business manager of the Jersey City Giants, but Branch Rickey, the president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, who signed Jackie Robinson and Wright to contracts, had received no notice when he was questioned while watching a ball game at Daytona Beach between the Royals and Jersey City.

"We have no intention of attempting to go counter to any city government laws or regulations," Rickey said. "If we are notified that Robinson cannot play in Jacksonville, of course he will not play." Sat 3-30-46

"WON'T BEAR ONUS"

When the question of Jackie Robinson and Wright playing in Jacksonville first came up last Thursday, Rickey said:

"If it's true that authorities do not want Robinson to play we will do nothing to countermand their desires. In that case, Robinson and Wright will not make the trip. But we will wait until we are officially notified. If such is the case, however, neither the Montreal nor the Brooklyn club will bear the onus. Let there be no misunderstanding on that point."

Jacksonville, one of the older cities of Florida, and whose population is approximately 50 percent colored, became the first southern municipality to ban Robinson and Wright openly and officially.

Manager Clay Hopper of the Royals had said he intended taking Jackie to Jacksonville "unless I get official notice not to."

Jim Crow Law Forces Game Cancellation

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va
Sat 3-30-46

Negroes Can't Play In Jacksonville;

No Hit for Jackie

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—In an exhibition game between the Montreal Royals and their parent club, the Brooklyn Dodgers, played here last Saturday, Jackie Robinson, trying out for a berth in the Montreal infield, was shifted to first base. Montreal defeated Brooklyn, 4 to 3.

Robinson was signed as a shortstop. He was shifted to second base in his first exhibition game and was assigned to the initial sack for last Saturday's tilt.

In this game, Robinson went hitless in three official at-bats, drawing a free pass and making a sacrifice hit on his other two appearances at the plate. The Negro star fielded without an error at first base and accounted for seven put-outs.

AFRO Scribe Warns Fans Not to Be Too Concerned About Jackie's Weak Batting

afro American
Baltimore, Md.

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

Jackie Robinson's failure to cause any press raves over his training camp hitting in Florida need not disturb you too much, and it won't if you're familiar with the many "angles" involved in the game of baseball, particularly of the professional brand.

The infield candidate of the Montreal Royals and the first colored player to crash the gates of modern organized baseball, faces his biggest task at the bat.

If Jackie thinks he was "in tough" when he was looking at the weird stuff thrown at him by pitchers in colored baseball, he "ain't seen nothing yet!" Those curves the colored fellows used to manufacture by cutting and scratching the ball (illegally) were very hard to follow, and all of that because a ball whose surface has been roughened can be made to do some unpredictable tricks.

But, despite these unfair tactics, the former Kansas City Monarch shortstop was secure in the realization that he wouldn't be intentionally hurt.

In organized baseball, tampering with the ball is outlawed and the rule is far more rigidly enforced than in the colored leagues, chiefly because the umpires are more adept at detecting the violations.

Thus disarmed, many of the pitchers in organized baseball use what is known as "the brush-off" pitch. This is a throw that may graze the batter's chin, clip a button off his stomach or bend back the bill of his cap.

This is also illegal but, as most of you know, it is extremely difficult to analyze a man's intentions. No umpire can safely accuse a pitcher of deliberately brushing off a batter. Sat 3-23-46

Jackie, being colored, will more than likely see a long siege of those "close" pitches. Others before him had the same experience, and they weren't colored—only dark-complexioned.

Olmo Suffered

Luis Olmo, for example, the Brooklyn Dodgers' Castillian who gave up after three years of dodging the "brush-off" in the National League, and this year signed to play ball in Mexico. Olmo was the "most-thrown-at" player in the National, mainly because he was the darkest.

The same was true of Roberto (Bobby) Estalella, the Cuban who tried for several years to make it with the Washington Senators before going to the Philadelphia Athletics in the American League.

Olmo and Estalella were never able to do justice to their batting averages because of this "close" pitching. Bing Miller, the old Washington rightfielder, was another fine batsman whose average was spoiled because he was "too dark," and because there was a widespread rumor that he had colored blood.

For those readers who have played or closely followed baseball, it is not hard to understand Robinson's handicap. He is a righthanded batter and, for that reason, is not forewarned as the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.

A lefthanded man knows that he must get out of the way when the ball starts directly at him, unless, of course, the pitcher is a portsider, too. In that case, the pitch could be a curve that eventually cuts across the plate.

With Jackie, he must wait until he sees exactly what the ball is going to do. He has the alternative of jumping away from the plate the moment the ball starts at him and looking foolish when it turns out to be a curve, or standing there too long and getting dropped by a bean ball.

Jackie Making Good In Field, Also

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Va.

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Enthusiasts following the fortunes of Jackie Robinson in the fast International league as a member of the Montreal Royals are thrilled over Jackie's batting average, but they are overlooking his defensive work.

Hardly a day passes that Jackie does not figure in an all important double play, either starting it or pivoting on the throw to first. This is an important part of the work round the keystone and the ability to start and pivot on twin killings is as important as a lusty batting average, although a combination of both offensive and defensive skill is essential to a major leaguer.

It is also interesting to note that many of Jackie's opponents are former big leaguers, some of whom have dropped down a notch from the big time for reasons that the high powered stars are returning to the big circuit. But this improves the caliber of play in the International and is a good measure of Jackie's ability. Sat 5-25-46

SCORING FIRST RUN—Jackie Robinson, Montreal Royals' infield star, rounds third on his way home with the first run ever scored by a colored player for a team in organized baseball. This shot was made as Jackie scored for Montreal in a game lost to the Brooklyn Dodgers at Daytona Beach, March 17.

Jackie's Fielding Flawless as Royals Beat Dodgers, 4-3

Afro American Baltimore Md.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — The Montreal Royals, with Jackie Robinson at first base, defeated the National League's Brooklyn Dodgers, 4-3, in a training camp game here Saturday. 3-30-46

The game was put on between the parent club and its Montreal farmhands after the Dodger management was advised the Royals game with Jersey City, scheduled for Sunday at Jacksonville, had been cancelled.

Robinson, playing the complete game, handled eight chances flawlessly afield. He scored seven putouts and rendered one assist in retiring another man.

At bat, he did not fare so well. The former UCLA star, first colored player to crash organized baseball, made five trips to the plate but was credited with only three times at bat. The other two times he walked and laid down a sacrifice bunt. 3-30-46

Robinson, despite his disappointing performance at the plate in exhibition games to date, was placed fifth in the Montreal batting order. This is one of the spots reserved for reliable or long-ball hitters.

Manager Clay Hopper of the Royals explained the shift of Jackie to first base thus: "Robbie doesn't appear to have a 'shortstop arm,' so we moved him to second. Soreness kept him from doing justice to himself at that post, so we decided we'd give him a try at first where the need of a strong arm is not so urgent."

Jackie Robinson Plays Second Base Against Dodgers

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—(Special) — Jackie Robinson, former Kansas City Monarch shortstop, got into the game for the Montreal Royals of the International League here Sunday against the Brooklyn Dodgers of the National League. The Dodgers won 7 to 2, although Montreal outhit them 11 to 7. Neither side made an error.

Robinson went to bat three times. On his first trip to the plate he fouled out to Dixie Howell, Dodger catcher.

On his next trip, in the fourth, he fouled out to Dixie Howell, Dodger catcher. But in the sixth, he rapped a hot grounder to Billy Herman whose throw to second forced Howie Schultz, loaned to Montreal by Brooklyn for the game. Jackie then stole second and scored on a single.

Sat 3-23-46

IT WAS THE first time in history that a Negro player on a white team had played in a spring training game in organized baseball where an admission was charged in Florida. A crowd of 4,000 applauded Robinson each time he appeared at the plate. Jackie played six innings. The game went the full route.

However, 1,000 Negroes attended the contest and were jammed in the Jim Crow section in right field. More than 200 were forced to stand back of the rightfield foul line where they could scarcely see the play. The Jim Crow section went wild when Robinson stole second.

Jackie Robinson Helps Keep Team On Top Of League

Chicago Defender
Sat 5-18-46

MONTREAL, Quebec—Jackie Robinson, first Negro to cross the threshold of organized baseball in the U. S., as a player, continued to spark the International league-leading Montreal Royals last week.

In a doubleheader against the Newark Bears, No. 1 Yankee farm club, here last week, the speedy second baseman garnered two hits in three trips to the plate, helped put over two double plays and batted in one of his team's five tallies during the second game. Although hitless in the opener, Robinson batted in one of Montreal's six runs and took part in one of his outfit's two double plays. Sat 5-11-46

63a 1946

Jackie Robinson

In this corner

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Some Pertinent Talk About Jackie

Tues. 9-10-46

By Bill Mardo

There was a group of us around the radio the other day and when twinkle-toed Pete Reiser notched his seventh steal of home-plate against the Giants, we were moved to observe that Brooklyn will be plain murder on the base paths next year what with Reiser and Jackie Robinson in the same line-up.

One fellow whom I didn't know too well piped up: "Don't talk through your hat. Robinson won't be brought up to the Dodgers and you know it." Of course we tried our level best to acquaint him with the facts which most certainly point to Jackie's debut with the '47 Flock, but this die-hard insisted. "The Southern guys on the team won't play with Robinson. What about Dixie Walker? Do you think he'd play for Brooklyn if Robinson came on the club?"

"My friend," we remarked, "that argument has been blown higher than a kite this year and by none other than Robinson's fine experiences with his Southern teammates who comprise at least 50 percent of the Montreal Royals team. I grant you that there may be a few fellows in the National League who won't like the presence of a Negro and they may try to make things tough for Jackie. But by and large most of the players are ordinary Joes from the mines, farms and factories of America and their inherent sense of democracy and fair-play will more than overwhelm the small few who are eaten up with poisonous prejudices. Many a Southern ball player, weaned though he was on the white-supremacy lie, has learned a most revolutionary lesson from Jackie Robinson's appearance and play in the International League this year. Those that haven't are outnumbered and completely alone in their desire to offset the democratic tide sweeping organized baseball.

"You have mentioned Dixie Walker specifically," we continued, "and suppose we tackle that case concretely. Okay, it's pretty widely known that Walker is anti-Negro. But if he thinks he can prevent Robinson from becoming a permanent fixture with the Dodgers, then old Dixie is going to be sorely disappointed. For one thing, we doubt that Rickey will tolerate any of that stuff. Now that he's taken the big plunge, the Mahatma is in this thing for keeps. He's quite prepared, we believe, to remind Walker that he's only one man on the ball club and he'll either play as a team man or not play at all."

My listener was still skeptical. "You mean to tell me that Rickey would risk losing a gate attraction and star player like Walker just to make room for Robinson?"

And here the argument was more or less clinched as we pointed out: "As a phenomenal player and also the first Negro in the big leagues, Jackie Robinson will be the biggest box-office draw in baseball next year. With the Royals alone, he has been the main magnet which has lured nearly a million fans through the turnstiles at Royal games both at home and on the road. Don't think this fact has escaped Branch Rickey. Dixie Walker's gate appeal will compare puny with that of Robinson's were anyone anxious to make such a comparison next season. So strictly from a business point of view, the Mahatma would be mad not to bring Jackie up to Brooklyn purely because of Walker's prejudices. Rickey hasn't had such a box-office draw like Robinson since the Deacon's days at St. Louis with Dizzy Dean.

"And this is a point which the progressives mustn't forget when they campaign for the signings of more Negroes by other major league clubs next year. That the clubowners, by their stupid, reactionary and pig-headed desire to sabotage the step taken by Rickey, are actually only succeeding in losing themselves a big pile of money."

"My God," said the one-time skeptic, "they are dumb! Imagine being so prejudiced that they're even willing to lose a potential million bucks more at the box-office."

"Not very good business, is it?" murmured this scribe. "But neither is it very good democracy. And that's what we're more concerned about."

GRAPEVINE SEES ROBINSON IN BIG LEAGUES—BUT SOON

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Jackie can't help but hit the big leagues. He's too good for anything else. That's the opinion of Clay Hopper, manager of the Montreal Royals, the Brooklyn farm team Robinson has been second-sacking for as the first Negro to break into organized baseball.

Hopper, a Southerner, said Robinson's prowess at bat and in the field is one of the big reasons Montreal is leading the International League by such a wide margin these days.

"That boy is a very fine ball player and, although he would be the first Negro to go up, I wouldn't be surprised to see him stick with the Brooklyn Dodgers next year," he said.

Rumors about Jackie's impending switch to the big time have been split between arguments of when he'll go—late this year or in time for the 1947 season. No one argues over whether he is eligible. They look at his record and nod.

"He can hit, throw, field and has tremendous speed, and that about gets you there," Hopper pointed out.

The speedy Robinson, whose rise to fame was predicted in a Daily Worker sports column better than six years ago, has added to a walloping season's record even during the past week, when he rapped out 13 hits in 23 trips to the plate to move into the International League's No. 2 spot in the batting derby.

He has been among the first five hitters most of the season and led the league in batting for a number of weeks. His average now is .367.

Mon 8-11-46

Robinson has now mastered the double-play pivot action that makes or breaks a second baseman in the big time, and his speed following his hits around the bases causes no little frustration among hurlers. The 190-pounder battled with teammate Marv Rackley for the stolen base honors earlier in the season, but was forced out of contention when a charlie horse benched him for some weeks.

Which adds up to a lot of grapevining between Ebbets Field and Montreal on just when Jackie Robinson will see his first big league action. The betting is it won't be long for this jimcrow buster.

Replies to Mr. Wells

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.
Tues. 10-29-46

On October 23 there appeared in The Point of View a letter from James Wells concerning "the Robinson incident," meaning, of course, Jackie Robinson, the star player of the Montreal Royals, who played against the Louisville Colonels in the Little World Series. I would like to answer this article, and perhaps straighten out some of the writer's warped opinions about the Negro.

In the first place, the writer can only speak for himself, when he says that Louisville fans don't want to see Negroes and whites play ball together. It appears that the writer wants to keep up the farce of a "superior race."

As to his statement that "the black man is far behind the white in intelligence, in culture, and in aptitude," I will agree with him in one respect. The Negro people of this nation have not produced anyone with enough intelligence to become a John Dillinger, or a "Baby Face" Nelson, both of them public enemies No. 1 But we have produced a George Washington Carver, a truly great scientist; a Booker T. Washington, educator; a Marion Anderson, possessor of the most widely celebrated voice of the United States and Europe; a Frank Yerby, who wrote the latest best-selling novel, "The Foxes of Harrow," which has been purchased by Twentieth Century-Fox theatrical studios; a Joe Louis, one of the greatest boxing champions of the entire boxing history; a Carter G. Woodson, great historian; a Dr. Daniel H. Williams, who performed the first successful surgical closure of a stab wound of the heart and pericardium; a Dean Dixon, the youngest man ever to conduct the N.B.C. Symphony; a Jesse Owens, one of the greatest sprinters of all times, and there are thousands more that I could name, but not among them would I find a man who had ever lynched a man because of the difference in pigmentation of their skins, and because he had the upper hand at the moment. And neither would I find an Adolf Hitler, one of the "superior race," who met his just end.

And, oh, yes, I had forgotten, the Montreal Royals did win the Little World Series, didn't they?

Hopkinsville, Ky. E. WILLIAMS.

Similar views are expressed in letters from Moses R. Parks, the Rev. A. H. James, Charles Bryant, Kennedy E. Watson, D. W. Beard and John W. Collins, all of Louisville and from Clarence W. Kaufman, Jr., of Lincoln, Neb., George W. Jones of Hopkinsville, Ky., and J. P. Marvin of Richmond, Va.—(Editor.

Echoes of the Little World Series

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.
Tues. 10-15-46

Your editorial on why we really lost the Little World Series was splendid. Our treatment of the Negroes at Parkway Field this year seems to have been a disgrace, not only the booing of Robinson, but the refusal to sell tickets to Negroes when many of them had come long distances to see a game. We got what we deserved in losing to Montreal.

Frankly, I'm glad I didn't attend the games here because I don't want to be a part of such shameful rudeness. Robinson took a good deal, and he took it like a gentleman. And he did more for the name of democracy than could be accredited to the whole Louisville rooting section.

You can have my interest, my ticket and my support to future Colonel games when the management and those supporting the games give the Negroes a fair deal. L. A.

Louisville.

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.
Tues. 10-15-46

I want to applaud you for your editorial regarding the passing of our beloved Colonels. The fans and management should never make the mistake again that lost the Little World Series. The unsportsmanlike booing of Jackie Robinson and not providing seats for Negro patrons were fatal mistakes that gave Montreal the inspiration and determination to win.

We will have another great club next season, probably the best in the minors, due to the vast supply of ball players with the Red Sox, but we must remember, all ball games are not lost on the field. The Colonels were beaten on their arrival at Montreal, as they faced a different club from the one in the series played at Louisville. BRYANT THOMAS.

Indianapolis, Ind.

Robinson to Play Rest of '46 Season with Montreal Club

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 8-31-46

Jackie Robinson

MONTREAL — Manager Clay Hopper of the Montreal Royals this week put to rest all rumors that Second Baseman Jackie Robinson may be called to Brooklyn to finish the season with the Dodgers, now in a hectic battle for the National League pennant. "Much as we would like to see Jack get the chance to play in Brooklyn," Hooper told the AFRO, "I cannot let him go at this time and hurt our chances to win the playoff of the International League."

Hopper has said several times in recent weeks that the former UCLA star is major league material. He has also expressed the opinion that should Jackie be called to Brooklyn he will be able to stick.

"Mr. Rickey has discussed the matter with Mel Jones, Royals' secretary, and myself," Hopper told the AFRO, "and we were all agreed that it would be unfair to us and that 1947 would be soon enough for the boy."

Jackie told the AFRO on Thursday, "Yes, I've heard the rumor, but both Hopper and Mel Jones have advised me that it won't come about until next year. "Whenever it comes, I'll try to be ready."

Picks Jackie's Performance As Year's Top Sport Thrill

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Tues. 12-3-46
63a

Sports Contest Editors:

The 1946 sport thrill really begins some years ago when The Daily Worker Sport Staff launched the historic campaign winding up in the victorious signing of the first Negro to a big league contract. It's heart warming climax comes this year with the sensational show put on by Jackie Robinson who sparked the Montreal Royals to a little world series honors and led the International League in batting. A remarkable performance by any ball player, but particularly outstanding for a rookie operating under the tension that Robinson must have felt.

Sport thrills have a habit of momentary excitement then speedy oblivion; but the debut of a sensational Negro infielder smashing Jim Crow to become the most talked of diamond athlete

YOU DON'T HAVE to be a writer to get into our contest—you just have to be a sports fan and put down in 200 words or less your idea of the Outstanding Sports Thrill of 1946. Five prizes for those judged best, all entries published.

his first time up—that's a thrill to permanently tingle the spines of sports lovers the world over.

The snarling cat, Harry Brecheen pitching with heart, head and hand to sucker a vaunted Boston gang of sluggers to defeat in the world series was really something. A slowing Joe Louis toying with Billy Conn; or pulverizing a Tami Mauriello also thrilling. But nothing like the picture of Robbie pivoting for a two ply killing; streaking for second with the pitcher's windup for a clean steal of second base; or lashing out with that big bat to scorch a game winning triple down the right field line.

Thrilling too, the clean American sport reception for this Negro youngster when hundreds of his admirers carried him from the field at Jersey City on his first successful appearance as a coming major league star.

And then the breath taking thrill of all time. 1947—the first game of the season at Ebbets Field.

Greetings,
Abe Moscow,
332 E. 19th St.,
N. Y. C.

Durocher Says:

'Jackie to Get Fair Trial

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 11-23-46
63a

Jackie Robinson, brilliant Negro second baseman of the Montreal Royals, is going to get a chance to play with the Brooklyn Dodgers, according to Manager Leo Durocher. Speaking on a National Broadcasting Company program from Los Angeles last Sunday, the colorful pilot of the "Bums" was asked if Jackie Robinson would be given a fair trial by the Dodgers next year.

Durocher

HAS GOOD RECORD

Durocher said: "Positively and definitely, yes. Jackie Robinson has answered that question himself. In his first year in Organized Baseball with Montreal, he batted .349 to lead the International League in hitting, batted in sixty-five runs and scored 116 runs himself. He also stole forty-one bases."

"That is about the best record any rookie has brought up from the minor leagues in years," Durocher said pointedly.

GOING TO CUBA

The fast-talking manager, regarded by most experts as the top pilot of the majors, said Robinson will go to spring training in Havana, Cuba, in February.

"Jackie will go to Havana for spring training," Durocher added. "Mr. Rickey and I will be watching closely to see what he can do. You can be assured that he will receive every possible chance to make good."

Meantime, The Pittsburgh Courier learned from a reliable source this week that both Brooklyn and Montreal will train in Havana. It has not been determined yet whether Robinson will go to camp a member of the Brooklyn squad or as a Montreal player. The Brooklyn club at times keeps outstanding rookies with the minor league club on which they starred and look them over in spring drills. The ability of the player is judged by what he does against the big leagues. If he does well, the Dodgers take him. Such was the case last spring with such ex-Montreal players as Carl Furillo, Anderson, Ramazotti and Berhman. They trained with Montreal, but ended up with the Dodgers. 11-23-46

Chandler and Wife Laud Jackie Robinson

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 12-21-46
63a

By J. CULLEN FENTRESS

LOS ANGELES— (Exclusive) — Jackie Robinson, the former UCLA all-around athlete who made good last season as the first Negro in modern, organized baseball, was spoken of in highly complimentary terms by Commissioner A. B. "Happy" Chandler last week during an exclusive interview.

Also given unstinting praise during the pleasant session was heavyweight Champion Joe Louis.

Here for the Major and Minor League Convention, the one-time Governor of Kentucky, later United States Senator, and now top figure of the diamond sport and his wife, Mrs. Mildred Chandler, welcomed Mr. and Mrs. C. L. McPherson (she's the former Edna Mae Robinnson, the tennis champion), Mrs. Lillian J. Fentress, Courier lensman George Cutler and the writer, to their bungalow at Chapman Park Hotel on Wilshire Boulevard Sunday morning, December 8.

The affable and personable commissioner apparently "lives and eats" baseball and impresses as one who is interested first and last in what is "good for the game."

Answering a question put to him concerning the future of the Negro in baseball, Chandler spoke highly of Robinson, who is thought in many circles to be almost a sure bet for the Brooklyn Dodgers next season.

"From what I've heard since I have been here," said Mister Baseball, "Robinson is perhaps the greatest all-around athlete this country has ever produced."

He said he had talked with Clay Hopper, manager of the Montreal Club of the International League, about Jackie. Hopper was Robinson's "boss" last season.

Stating that he was sympathetic with the problems not only of the Negro but all of the so-called "Little Shots" of the nation, the Commissioner indicated he was in Jackie's corner.

63a

Mention of "Little" Shot's" caused Chandler to give his definition of a "Big Shot." "A Big Shot is a Little Shot who keeps shooting," he explained.

That definition indicates the understanding of the man, as did the recounting by his wife of a football game the pair attended several years ago in which one of the teams was Boston College. Its backfield star was Lou Montgomery, a Negro.

At the start of the game, Mrs. Chandler said her husband commented: "Watch that colored fellow; he will be the best player on the field."

How did he know?

"He has to be twice as good as the others to be on the team," Chandler answered.

Realizing that the woman is oftimes the power behind the throne, the writer was interested in getting Mrrs. Chandler's impressions on the subject of the Negro in organized baseball.

She was convinced that the Negro wants complete integration into organized ball which, after all is but following the democratic pattern and contributing to a better world.

While admitting that it takes time for people to change old ideas, but that they were changing, Mrs. Chandler said the "books can be closed" on the inevitability of integration. 12-21-46

The commissioner's wife also paid heavyweight champion Joe Louis high tribute, declaring that Louis commands the respect of all people because he leads a clean, exemplary life.

She also spoke in glowing terms of the champions recognized ability for saying significant gems at the right time. Louis' famed "We're on God's side," spoken during the war, was a case in point.

Time may well prove (the writer honestly believes it will) that organized baseball could not have made a wiser choice than that of the A. B. "Happy" Chandler—the game's "Royal Family"—to direct and guide this national pastime.

Robinson's Sore "Wing" May Anchor Him to First

Pittsburgh Courier, Penn.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—Jackie Robinson's future in organized baseball may very well lie in the ailing muscles of his right arm. Failure of the bronze infielder's flipper to respond to treatment rapidly is causing considerable concern in the Montreal camp this week and Manager Clay Hopper has finally moved him over to first base, a site that doesn't call for much throwing.

Last Friday morning Hopper assigned the ex-UCLA star to the initial sack during an inter-squad game. It was the second time since he arrived in camp that Robinson has found himself in "strange territory." He originally reported as a shortstop and played that position for three days. When his "wing" became irritated on the fourth day Hopper decided to try him at second. Then, last Friday, on orders from Owner Branch Rickey, Hopper put Robinson at first. Whether or not he stays there remains to be seen.

Robinson may find less competition at the initial corner than any other position on the team. The Royals are sadly in need of a first-baseman. The dirth of sack-kickers is so bad that in games against the parent club Dodgers they have been forced to borrow a first-baseman. In previous contests they have "hired" Schultz and Stevens, Dodger giants, to guard first base. *3-30-46*

Branch Rickey appears to be enthusiastic about Robinson's latest switch. In fact, he has been giving Jackie personal instructions and advice. Friday morning, for instance, Rickey took his "baby" over to the sidelines and spent considerable time instructing him on how to stretch and how to tag and bag.

"If his arm fails to come around," Rickey said afterwards, "we may have to put him on first base. I believe he can play that position. Anyone with any mental capacity can handle first base. Robinson has shown that he is no dumb-bell. He is apt and learns things exceptionally fast. He may turn out to be Montreal's first-baseman." *Sat*

Robinson is taking the latest switch philosophically. "I've never played first base," he said, "but if that's where they want me to play that's where I'll be. On the other hand, I'm not worried in the least about my arm. It is getting better every day. But whatever Manager Hopper wants me to do, I'll do willingly."

The latest switch in position makes Robinson the main factor in some kind of an unofficial double-play—from short to second to first.—W. Smith.

Jackie Plays First; Hitless Against Bums

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

Manager Clay Hopper Assigns Robinson to Initial Sack as Montreal Bumps Brooklyn, 4 to 3, in Saturday Afternoon Contest At Daytona Beach Before 1,500 Fans

3-30-46 *Saturday*

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—Jackie Robinson got his second gander at the Brooklyn Dodgers' front-line hurling corps here last Saturday afternoon before 1,500 fans and for the second time within seven days he had the unhappy experience of going hitless as his fighting mates nipped the Flatbush nine, 4 to 3, behind the five-hit pitching of Al Sherrer and Jack Paepke.

Jacki had five trips to the plate and the best he could get out of it was a walk in the first inning and a fielder's choice in the fifth.

In the field, he made his debut as a first baseman and did a reasonably good job for a novice. He chalked up seven putouts and had five assists during his busy afternoon at the initial corner. Manager Clay Hopper said before the contest that he was starting Jackie at first base because the Pasadena infielder had a sore arm.

"I'm using him on first," Hopper said, "because I don't want him to throw much and also because I want to see what he can do at that position.

MONTREAL	A.	H.	P.	A.
Ram'tti,3b.	2	0	1	2
Jor'sen,3b..	3	0	1	0
Tatum,rf...	2	2	3	0
Kitman,rf..	2	1	3	0
Phillips,lf..	5	2	2	0
Whit'n,cf...	3	1	3	0
Robinson,1b	4	0	7	5
Bas'll,2b....	2	1	0	0
Roch'll,2b..	3	1	3	1
Breard,ss...	5	2	2	2
Edwards,c..	1	0	0	0
Anderson,c..	1	1	2	0
Paepke,p...	1	0	1	1
Sherrer,p...	2	0	0	0
Totals.	36	11	27	11

BROOKLYN	A.	H.	P.	A.
Reese,ss.....	3	2	2	7
Mauch,ss....	1	0	1	1
Hermanski,rf	2	0	3	0
Reiser,cf....	3	1	1	0
Rosen,cf....	1	1	2	0
Walker,lf...	2	0	0	0
*Durrett,lf..	0	0	0	0
Graham,1b..	2	0	7	0
Stevens,1b..	2	0	1	1
Herman,2b..	2	0	1	2
Stanky,2b...	2	0	2	1
Kimball,3b..	2	0	0	0
Lav'etto,3b.	2	1	2	2
Howell,c.....	2	0	3	1
Padgett,c....	2	0	2	0
Johnson,p...	1	0	0	0
Lombardi,p..	1	0	0	0
†Burge......	0	0	0	0
‡Rizzo......	1	0	0	0
Totals..	31	5	27	16

*—Awarded first base on interference by catcher in eighth.
†—Hit for Johnson in 5th.
‡—Hit for Lombardi in 9th.

MONTREAL...........	000	022	000—4
BROOKLYN...........	001	000	020—3

GETS WALK FIRST TIME UP

Robinson's failure to connect for one of Montreal's eleven hits wasn't considered a serious shortcoming by the Royals' boss. He continued to look dangerous at the plate, but it was evident that he hasn't quite adjusted himself to the environment at Island Park, the stamping grounds of the Dodgers. The first time up, in the second inning, Jackie got a free ticket on four balls. The second time, he followed to Catcher Dixie Walker. The third time he laid down a bunt along the third base line, and when Pitcher Paul Johnson tried to nail Johnny Phillips at third on the play, the latter beat the throw and all hands were safe. That was the second and last time "Robbie" was a base runner. The fourth time up he lifted an easy fly to left and in his final attempt in the ninth, he was called out on strikes when Pitcher Vic Lombardi nipped the inside corner with a good fast ball.

Montreal sewed the ball game up in the sixth inning by scoring two runs on a triple and two singles. In the previous stanza, they came from behind to take a one run lead on an error and three hits, which produced their first duo of runs.

Brooklyn threatened in the eighth when Stevens blasted a long ball to right. Tatum made a sensational catch, but Hermanski and Rosen, who had been stationed on third and second respectively, both came home on the long out.

Sherrer and Paepke gave up but five hits, while the Royals were combing Johnson and Lombardi for eleven.

During an inter-camp game Friday, Robinson blasted out three hits in four trips to the plate, including a triple. Those blows were made at the Royals home grounds, Kelly Field, and Manager Hopper is confident that the bronze speed demon will loosen up at other sites as soon as he becomes adjusted to the surroundings.

Pitcher Jonn Wright was granted an off-day Saturday and watched the game from the stands.

ROYALS DROP TWIN BILL TO NEWARK

Pittsburgh Courier *Pittsburgh Pa*

NEWARK, N. J.—After beating the Jersey City Giants, 14 to 1 and 9 to 1, in the initial games of the 1945 International League season, in the latter's own backyard, the Montreal Royals, with Jackie Robinson at second base, were slowed down to a mere walk here Sunday afternoon before 12,978 fans, when they dropped a hard fought twin bill to Newark's growling Bears, 1 to 0, and 7 to 6.

Following his brilliant debut Thursday, Robinson came back Saturday, after a good Friday off-day, and turned in another impressive job—nothing, however like his opening day performance. He got one hit in two official trips to the plate Saturday, his third successful bunt in two days, and handled four chances flawlessly in the field, as the Royals copped the two-game series, 9 to 1, behind the six-hit pitching of Jack Banta, lanky right-hander. He also stole two bases in this contest and crossed the plate twice. *Sat*

In Newark Sunday, a near capacity throng turned out to see the speedy bronze second sacker. Almost half of the crowd was composed of Negro patrons, and despite the fact that the Royals lost both games, Robinson gave them a show for their money. In the first game he laid down a perfect bunt and beat it out, for his lone hit in four trips to the plate. But he handled six chances in the field perfectly and made two sensational putouts on would-be base stealers. He made one error in this contest when he let a ground ball dribble through his legs, but made up for that a moment later by tagging the same runner out at second.

In the second game he singled and bunted safely in four trips to the plate, scored one run and drove in another. *4-22-46*

Thus far Robinson has connected for eight hits in fifteen trips to the plate. He has stolen five in six attempts, driven in seven runs and scored five himself. Although he has committed two errors in the field in four games, the ex-UCLA "wonder man" has been just short of sensational out on the turf, and has done an excellent job in a position that until a month ago was completely foreign to him.

When he took his first turn at the plate Sunday, the crowd in Newark outdid the throng that was on hand in Jersey City and gave him a tremendous ovation. There is no doubt whatsoever now that the fans or the players object in any way to his presence in organized baseball.

ROBINSON'S THROWING ARM OK'd

Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh Pa. *Sat. 4-13-46*

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—All the apprehension about Jackie Robinson's throwing ability disappeared completely here this week in games against Indianapolis and St. Paul. In both contests Jackie threw with the accuracy and zip expected of a high class infielder.

Apparently the soreness that hampered his progress the first four weeks in camp, which forced Manager Clay Hopper to switch him from shortstop to second base and then finally to first, has gone and the former UCLA flash is now throwing like a man with a brand new arm.

There was some question for a long time about Robinson's arm. It was believed in some quarters that he had a weak wing and that such a defect would keep him out of the Montreal lineup.

HOPPER CONVINCED

But he proved definitely the past week that he can throw with the rest of the Royal infielders. His throwing on pivot plays from second on double plays lately has removed all doubt in Hopper's mind.

Coach Clyde Sukeforth said last Saturday after watching Robinson throw under fire, that his arm was "good enough for any team in any league." *Sat 4-13-46*

In fact, it is now the concensus of opinion that he has a better wing than Stan Breard, the crack little Montreal shortstop, who definitely has a weak arm. Breard, however, has the knack of getting a ball away to first base exceptionally fast and that makes up in some measure for his light throwing arm.

30,000 Baltimore Ball Fans See Robinson Play

Chicago Defender, Ill.

BALTIMORE — A crowd of 30,000 baseball fans jammed Municipal Stadium here Sunday to see two Negro players appear with an International League team for the first time in the city's history.

The magnets, which lured the thousands of diamond devotees to the park, were Jackie Robinson, infielder, and John Wright, pitcher, with the Montreal Royals club. Although Maryland is a Jim Crow state, the fans in attendance generously applauded the Negro performers with the Canadian team. The consensus was that "Robinson and Wright are two good ball players." *5-4-46*

Wright failed to see action Sunday but pitched two innings as a relief hurler Saturday night. Robinson played at second base in both of Sunday's contests. He handled four chances without an error in the first game and singled in the ninth with the score tied, scoring the winning run when Durrett tripled. *Sat.*

In the second game, Robinson went hitless in three times at the bat. He errored on a grounder in the Baltimore third which set up the Orioles' initial run.

—Cummiskey—

P.M. New York, NY

Robinson Has Got It

Fri 4-19-46

From that moment he stood with black head bared under the snapping flag in centerfield along with the rest of his fellows in organized baseball until that moment when he was mobbed—in the hero sort of way—as he left the field, it was a great day for Jackie Robinson in Jersey City yesterday.

But it's a greater day everywhere today, for not only Robbie and his race, but for the whole American scene, which came mighty close to being what the blueprint called for in the first place, as the deep hatreds bubbled into spontaneous cheers and a guy whose skin was black met the test on the

same plane with his fellows—ability alone—and was found to be good, very good.

The whole problem of racial discrimination has deeper overtones than a single to right or a stolen base, but if some of our more learned sociologists got the problem to such a level, things might be a helluva lot different.

But I come today to speak of a ball player, a 26-year-old Air Corps veteran who carried more than his Montreal shirt on his slim shoulders. For indeed he carried the hope, the heart of his race and all free-thinking men with him. And he carried it mighty well.

You know by now that he was great, that he scored four runs, homered and singled home four more, stole two bases, and proved he was human after all by booting one in six chances.

You could feel the tightness of him the first time he walked to the plate, the bright sun glinting off his deep black face, his lips tensely parted over white teeth. And you felt good when the crowd of 25,000 broke into applause—a slight ripple starting in the bleachers and rolling back loud through the big horseshoe on the shores of the Passaic River. *Fri 4-19-46*

Not a single soul in the park had to be trapped between a social problem and home plate to know the deep significance of what was going on before their eyes, but the problem's weightiness vanished in the clean cool air as Robinson lined a 335-foot homer over the wall with two on in the third.

He went on from there, bunting perfectly twice and also stealing a pair of bases and, on sheer ability alone, going all the way home on one of those plays when he forced the pitcher to balk him in.

It was nice looking down on the Montreal bench after he fired his homer shot, nice to watch the white hands come out to clap him on the back and wring both his hands all the way from the plate to the dugout.

The fans—and you know baseball fans—had completely forgotten the color of his skin and were buzzing with the great impression he was making as a player.

I'm glad that when it came it was in a stadium aptly named Roosevelt and built during those WPA years when so many hands were idle. The Champ would have been mighty happy, too.

—Joe Cummiskey

Cummiskey

Robinson Has Got It (Part 2)

P.M. New York, N.Y.

BALTIMORE, Apr. 30.—Jackie Roosevelt Robinson, the first of his race to break through the color line in organized baseball, has fallen off from the terrific pace he set for himself when I saw him open in Jersey City 10 days ago, but even down here wheah-you-all-know-how-we-feel-about-them has a tendency to rear its intolerant head, he is going along and making the good fight and doing his job well.

Robinson, who opened with four for five including a homer, figured to fall back from that mark but, over-all, he is doing well and has been well received.

His greatest asset always has been his speed, and he has pulled up with a sore leg for this series with the Baltimore Orioles, but has hung in there gamely.

Veteran baseball men pointed out at the start that he didn't seem to be a "sure" fielder, as they're called, at 2b—that he couldn't make the pivot well on the DP—but that can be traced to the newness of his position because he always was a shortstop. *Tue. 4-30-46*

Branch Rickey and his talent scouts saw a weakness in Robbie's arm for that long throw to first base from deep short, and, while he isn't as smooth as Joe Gordon on the get-two play, he does very well at that.

He is, admittedly, under great pressure, particularly in Baltimore which is as far South as the North can be, if you get what I mean.

But he has been well received, and the way he now is taken for granted, for the ball player and athlete he is, by fellow teammates, in itself is a step forward of bunyonesque proportions.

Some of the sports writers here who have to be concerned about outraging some of the rockheads who think in terms of Massa and col', col' groun', yassuh, yassuh, and have to watch what they say about Robinson and are a nasty bit of patronizing about the thing, have been nice to him by their standards, but it's no cup of tea Robbie's putting up with.

One of them, for example, said that the other Montreal players credit Robbie as a model athlete in conduct. Now isn't that nice of them? What did he expect they'd tell him—that Robbie goes around slavering with a razor in his hand looking for some one to mugg?

Some of the well-I-hope-so type of writers are pointing up that the going will get tougher as the season gets older and that it takes a player of near-major league caliber to stay with a club in the International League.

That's very true, but it's also true that what he has accomplished so far is no mean feat and the further he goes, the better the chance of rubbing that color line out completely. *Tue. 4-30-46*

I think Clay Hopper, the Montreal manager (who's from the South, by the way) deserves a great deal of credit for the way he has conducted himself in this whole experiment, which some still term it.

—Joe Cummiskey

Making Good in Baseball

Pittsburgh Courier

A young Negro ex-Army officer named Jackie Robinson thrilled 25,000 baseball fans April 18 in a game between the Jersey City Giants and the Montreal Royals, to which he belongs, in the opening game of the International League season in Mayor Hague's bailiwick.

As one of the young Negro ball players hired by Branch Rickey in a precedent-shattering move this year and fresh from being subjected to color discrimination while in spring training in Florida, the eyes of the American baseball world were upon him.

The story of how he lived up to the most optimistic expectations is now history, but the fine work of Robinson and his colleagues in the Brooklyn Dodgers farm clubs points a moral. *Pa.*

The struggle of Negroes for opportunity to prove themselves has been a long one and as many have failed as have succeeded, as among all people, which proves that opportunity is not enough.

One has to be able to take advantage of opportunity when it knocks and to do even better than expected, as Jackie Robinson did, and as Joe Louis and hundreds of others have done. *Sat.*

To make good in baseball, as in all other endeavors, a person must be equipped, and when the person is a Negro in America he must be especially well equipped, as are the youngsters who are entering the big leagues for the first time this season.

There is too much of a tendency for people nowadays to give more time to clamoring for opportunity than to preparing themselves for the opportunity when it arrives.

Agitation is all very well, but execution is far more important. *4-27-46*

Many other doors are going to be opened from now on in America to young colored men and women, and it is to be fervently hoped that all those who get the opportunity to enter hitherto untrodden fields will be as well qualified to deliver the goods as these young athletes who have defied tradition and won. *Sat.*

And while we are on the subject, we should not fail to express our gratitude to those numerous fair-minded white people in positions of power, like Branch Rickey, who have had the courage to fly in the face of prejudiced opposition and hidebound tradition and open the doors of opportunity to colored Americans in keeping with the true spirit of democracy and fairplay.

No Robinson, No Ball Game

Chicago Defender

Montreal Refuses To 'Bust Up' Club

Sat. 3-30-46

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—Because George Robinson, executive secretary of Jacksonville's playgrounds and recreation board, declared that there was a city ordinance against whites and Negroes mixing in athletic events or even playing together whether opponents or not, the Montreal Royals of the International League cancelled their game here with the New York Giants' farm club, Jersey City.

Mel Jones, traveling secretary of the Montreal Club, said he had notified Jersey City that Jacksonville had denied the Montreal Club the use of Durkee field unless they agreed to leave Jackie Robinson, former shortstop of the Kansas City Monarchs, and John Wright, pitcher who last played with the Washington Homestead Grays before joining the navy, at Daytona Beach.

Both Wright and Robinson have taken part in mixed games in Florida.

Manager Clay Hopper of the Royals, whose home is in Mississippi, decided that the Florida red necks weren't going to tell him who to play on his club and what color the man would be. The exhibition game for Sunday, March 24, was thus "out."

Jacksonville is about 50-50 white and Negro population. It now becomes the first southern city to openly and officially ban Jackie Robinson and Wright.

Sat 3-30-46

DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.—Branch Rickey discovered R. Janis, agent for the Mexican League, tampering with Jackie Robinson here last Tuesday at Island City Park. Janis had been seen at Kelly Field, the Montreal training grounds.

The Mexicans offered Robinson $6,000 per year, tickets for himself and Jackie's wife, plus all expenses for both. Robinson turned down the offer.

Robinson said he told the Mexican's agent that he "was not interested and that he had too much at stake and would not accept."

Robinson played first base for Montreal Saturday as the Royals beat Brooklyn, 4 to 3. Jackie was up four times and failed to hit.

Robinson Sparkles

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier 3-23-46

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—After going hitless in four previous games, Jack (the Rabbit) Robinson found the range here last Friday morning and came through with two sizzling hits as he and his mates, playing under the direction of Clyde Sukeforth, downed Coach George Sisler's squad, 5 to 3. Not only did "Robbie" connect twice in five trips to the plate, but he handled five chances perfectly at second base for the best day he has had since the Montreal training sessions were launched here at Kelly Field. *Saturday*

DRIVES IN FIRST RUN

The pigeon-toed infielder drove in the first "Sukie" run in the initial inning when he slashed a hit into left center, driving home Lou Wilaj from second. The former UCLA flash stretched the hit into a double by beating Leftfielder Burgess' return throw by a split second. Nor was the effort an easy one. When he went hustling into second, Robinson and Second Baseman Al Grosman crashed head-on. They met with such force that Grosman had to leave the game the next inning, while Jackie took two more innings to shake off the collision. Burgess' heave from left arrived at second just as Robinson hit the dirt. In trying to tag the sepia speedster, Grosman had the painful experience of crashing into Jackie head-first but the latter's feet weer already firmly gripped around the keystone bag safely. Both the second sacker and the base runner were stunned momentarily and time was called until they "came around." Grosman never fully recovered, but Robinson stayed in the contest and collected his second blow in the seventh inning, a sharp bingle to center.

Jackie Robinson's Batting Average To Date

MONTREAL, Canada—Jackie Robinson, the Montreal Royals Negro second sacker, is batting along at a .339 clip in the International League. Up until May 1, Jackie was hitting a cool .360 but he has been injured and had to be withdrawn from one game, on May 3, going in as a pinch hitter in the seventh inning. He failed to hit in this game. Since May 1, Jackie has been at bat nine times for two hits, one of which was a double. Both of these hits came on May 4. The Royals were unable to play from Saturday, May 4, until Tuesday of this week because of bad weather.

Robinson's complete batting statistics through Monday, May 6 follows:

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	PCT.
Robinson, Montreal	16	59	20	20	4	1	1	7	9	.339

THE HORIZON

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By P. L. PRATTIS

A Real Life Drama Wherein A White Lad Is Jim Crowed in Dixie

By CHESTER L. WASHINGTON, Guest Columnist

THE comparatively liberal world of sports frequently brings us examples which bring out the ridiculousness of America's asinine pattern of prejudice. And unemancipated Dixie, with its distorted idea of democracy, usually plays the leading role in this insidious drama of segregation . . . The latest play, staged in bias-bloated Alabama, could quite properly be called "Prejudice in Reverse." It is a sequel to the unsportsmanlike sports spectacle which unfolded a few weeks ago in Jacksonville, Fla., when the city officials padlocked the ball park to keep Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright—sepia sons of Ham but still two good ball players — from playing with their white teammates, the Montreal Royals — Branch Rickey's "step-children."

Mr. Prattis

• • •

THE NEW drama starred Eddie Klep, a clean-cut young white chap . . . and a fine pitcher, who had joined the Cleveland Buckeyes, last year's Negro champions, upstate. Eddie explained that he had signed up with the colored team simply because he liked the fellows on the club . . . and the way they played ball. Sat. 4-13-46

In the opening scene, in a ball park up in Erie, Pa.—Eddie's home town—Klep pitched against the Cleveland team. He proved that he had real class. Manager Ernie Wright liked Eddie's twirling so well that when Klep asked for a tryout, he granted it. So Eddie made the team. Wright warned Klep that he might run into some "complications" when the team started training. But Eddie said he would take that chance. Well, that was all right "up Nawth" . . .

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BUT SCENE II was staged in Rickwood Field in Birmingham, Ala., where Klep had been slipped into the park along with his colored teammates. For a couple of days, the spring training drills moved along smoothly. Then a whispering campaign started. The news had leaked out that that "negra" team had a white boy on it. A couple of burly white Birmingham cops visited the scene. One of them spoke:

COP: "Do y'all have a white boy on yo' team?"

JIMMIE JONES: (The team's publicity manager) "Why, yes, we do."

COP: "Well, git him out of here . . . and quick . . . We don't have no mixin' down here!"

JONES: "Well, can't he remain in the dugout while we work out?"

COP: "No, he can't set in the dugout or any other place with you. If you want this here game to go on, git him off the field and out of them ball clothes . . . or there won't be any game!"

(Klep looks on in amazement. It's his first close-up glimpse of Southern "hospitality.")

JONES: "Well, Eddie, I guess you'll have to go to the hotel and take off your uniform."

KLEP: "O. K., Jimmie."

(Eddie had heard that something like this had happened to Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright, but he didn't think it could happen to him.) Sat. 4-13-46

After returning from his hotel, Klep took a seat in a box just above his team's dugout to watch his mates play. But again the park's cops approached him. One of them spoke:

COP: "We don't allow no white folks to set in this 'negra' section."

KLEP: (Peeved but trying to avoid further trouble) "O. K., Officer, I'll move."

(The setting for Scene III was in a restaurant where Klep was getting ready to eat his evening meal with the rest of the team.) Someone speaks to him.

ATTENDANT: "I'm sorry, Mistah, but whites and 'negras' ain't allowed to eat together here. You can't eat with them boys."

(This really happened . . . it isn't just a play).

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EVERYWHERE KLEP went, the grim spectre of segregation shadowed and haunted him. He had been told by his manager that he would meet some problems, but he didn't think all of these insults would happen to him . . . not in a democracy.

Finally, in order to avoid further embarrassment to this truly courageous young white lad, Manager Wright was virtually forced to send him back to Erie, Pa., to practice with a semi-pro team up there until the Buckeyes return North. Sat. 4-13-46

IN SPITE of his mistreatment down South, Klep is patiently awaiting his team's return, when he will re-join his mates. But he says they can't emerge above the Mason-Dixon line too soon for him.

There's a slang expression which says "white is right." But Alabama's version goes a little farther than that: Their idea is: White is right . . . but whites don't have the right to associate with "negras," in social and civic affairs nor even in sports. And Manager Wright was dead wrong when he thought that the State which produced some of America's greatest athletic personalities such as Joe Louis, Jesse Owens and Satchell Paige would allow a white boy on a "negra" team.

Curtain.

Reverse English—White Hurler Tries Out for Cleve. Buckeyes

Afro American Sat. 4-6-46
Baltimore, Md.

BIRMINGHAM — (ANP) — Eddie Klep, 25, white, southpaw from Eric, Pa., trying out here with the World Champion Cleveland Buckeyes, is believed to be the first white player signed by a club in the Negro American League.

He said when interviewed here known the identity of Klep. He has been working out with the Buckeyes at Sloss Field here without incident.

Just what the reaction will be when he appears with the club at Rickwood Field is unpredictable.

Klep said that he won 21 games and lost 4 with the Erie Pontiacs last year. He added that he has been pitching 12 years, four of them in semi-pro baseball. He said further that he was offered a tryout with the pro team in his hometown which he did not accept.

Doubtless authorities have not that he had played semi-pro baseball with a mixed team, felt like that since the white majors are giving colored talent a chance the colored majors should give white players a chance. He said that he

EDDIE KLEP

was working hard to make the team.

Buckeyes Owner Goes South To Protest White Star's Ban

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By JIMMIE N. JONES

CLEVELAND, Ohio—Protesting the eviction of Eddie "Lefty" Klep, a candidate for a berth on the pitching staff of the Cleveland Buckeyes, world champions, Ernest Wright, owner of the champs made a hurried trip to the Southland to investigate the action of the Birmingham police, and at the same time taking the controversial player with him.

Arriving in the training camp, Mr. Wright made it known that he was building a ball team of material that would produce another world champion and not one to be confined to any certain race or creed.

Said Mr. Wright, "If Branch Rickey and others of organized baseball can choose material of their liking in order to produce a winning ball club and without question of race or color despite the Southern "Jim-Crow" tradition, then why can't I do th same." Sat. 4-13-46

Young Klep is no more than a other youngster of American idea and with an ambition to be a pitc er on a great ball club, and wi that ambition in mind, he beir a native of Erie, Pa., also the hon of sport fans who believe in t American way of life, and loyal the Buckeyes when they appe in that city, is entitled to play the team of his choice.

Bar Negro Stars In Jacksonville

N. Y. N. Y. 3-23-46 Daily Worker

The first attempt to ban Jackie Robinson and John Wright, Montreal Negro players, from a Southern diamond is taking place in Jacksonville, Fla., where Montreal is scheduled to meet Jersey City tomorrow.

The Jacksonville Playground and Recreation Board, through its secretary George Robinson, announced yesterday that Negro and white athletes are not allowed to play together and "that would serve to bar any Negro player from the game here Sunday." SAT

Robinson and Wright have played with Montreal at both Sanford and Daytonna Beach. Both are strong candidates for regular positions on the International League team. Branch Rickey indicated yesterday that the Montreal team would not fight the undemocratic Jacksonville ban. If they are barred, he said, "neither the Brooklyn club nor the Montreal club will bear the onus." This was as far as he would go.

ROYALS' GAME OFF AT JACKSONVILLE

New York Times

City Denies Use of Field for Sunday Contest Because of 2 Negroes With Montreal

Sat 3-23-46 New York, N.Y.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 22 (AP)—A controversy over participation of Jackie Robinson and John Wright, Negro players for Montreal of the International League, in an exhibition game Sunday resulted in cancellation of the contest today. The Royals had been scheduled to play Jersey City at Durkee Field, here.

George Robinson, executive secretary of the Jacksonville Playground and Recreation Board, said: "Rules, regulations and policies of the Jacksonville Playground and Recreation Board prohibit mixed contestants in athletic events on their facilities. That means white and Negro athletes cannot play together and would serve to bar any Negro from the game here Sunday. There will be no game."

Mel Jones, traveling secretary for the Royals, said in a statement at Daytona Beach that Montreal had been notified by the Jersey City club that the City of Jacksonville Recreation Commission had denied use of Durkee Field for the game.

Robinson and Wright, first Negroes signed by organized baseball, have been trainiing with Montreal in Florida and have taken part in mixed games in other Florida cities.

In a joint statement, Edgar P. Feeley, treasurer and attorney of the New York Giants and the Jersey City ball club, and Charlie Stoneham, secretary of the Jersey City team, said: Sat 3-23-46

"We had nothing to do with the cancellation. We were willing to go ahead with the game if we could persuade Montreal to leave (Jackie) Robinson at Daytona Beach to satisfy this regulation of the city playground and recreation department but (Secretary George) Robinson told us the game had been cancelled."

FLORIDA CITY BARS MONTREAL NEGROES

New York Times New York, N.Y.

Jacksonville Says Wright and Robinson Cannot Play There Against Jerseys Sunday

Fri 3-22-46

By ROSCOE McGOWEN

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., March 21—Neither Jackie Robinson nor John Wright, the two Negroes with Montreal, will be permitted to play next Sunday in Jacksonville when the Royals go there to meet the Giants' Jersey City farm.

George G. Robinson, executive secretary of the Playground and Recreational Commission in that city, made that clear when he was reached on the telephone today and asked whether Jackie Robinson would be allowed to play.

"No," was the unequivocal reply. "It is part of the rules and regulations of the Recreational Department that Negroes and whites cannot compete against each other on a city-owned playground."

The city of Jacksonville owns the ball park in which the game is scheduled.

Secretary Robinson said that he already had notified Charles Stoneham, business manager of the Little Giants, but Branch Rickey, the man who signed both Negroes, had received no notification when he was questioned while watching a ball game at City Island Park between the Royals and Jersey City.

Rickey Accepts Decision

Told that it was official Jackie could not play in Jacksonville, the Dodger president said: "We have no intention of attempting to go counter to any city government's laws or regulations. If we are notified that Robinson cannot play in Jacksonville, of coursehe will not play.

"But," Rickey added, "we will not take the onus for this thing. Let there be no misunderstanding about that." Fri. 3-22-46

Guy Simmons, Park Commissioner, was the first man reached in Jacksonville. He promptly tossed the question into the lap of Secretary Robinston by saying the Park Commission "has nothing whatever" to do with it.

Information from other sources is that four of the five recreational Commissioners promptly voted in the negative on the question. The fifth member is Steve Freel, president of the Jacksonville baseball club, who, it was said, could not be reached by Secretary Robinson.

Thus Jacksonville, one of the older cities of Florida, and whose population is approximately 50 per cent Negro, became the first Southern municipality to announce such a taboo openly and officially. Manager Clay Hopper of the Royals had said he intended taking Jackie to Jacksonville "unless I get official notice not to." Such notice undoubtedly will be forthcoming.

Color Bars Hit Wright And Robinson; Montreal Royal Cancels Contest

The Louisiana Weekly New Orleans, La.

Sat. 3-30-46

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Jacksonville, Fla., March 27.—An exhibition game between the Montreal Royals and Jersey City was cancelled here Sunday at Durkee Field because of regulations barring mixed athletic contests. Montreal could have played the game without Jackie Robinson and John Wright, their recently signed Negro players, but declined unless they were permitted to play.

Durkee Field is owned by the city and governed by the Jacksonville Playground and Recreation Board. George Robinson, executive secretary of the board, said:

"Rules, regulations and policies of the board prohibit mixed contestant in athletic events on their facilities. That means white and Negro athletes cannot play together and would serve to bar any Negro from the game here Sunday. There will be no game."

One of the state's older cities, with approximately 50 per cent Negro population, Jacksonville became the first southern municipality to openly announce its official racial taboo. Robinson and Wright, the first Negroes signed by organized baseball, have been training with Montreal and have taken part in mixed games in other Florida cities.

Branch Rickey, the Dodgers' president, bowed to the segregation law but said, "We will not take the onus for this thing. Let there be no misunderstanding about that." Sat 3-30-46

Fans Must Not Expect Too Much Of Jackie Robinson And Wright

Chicago Defender Ill.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—The spring training debut of Jackie Robinson, of UCLA football and track fame and last summer shortstop for the Kansas City Monarchs in the Negro American League, and John Wright, recently re-

SPORTS

leased from the Navy and former pitcher for the Washington Homestead Grays, had been postponed for 48 hours and was scheduled for Monday, March 4.

The two Negro players, signed by Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers, were to don uniforms of the Montreal club of the International League at Sanford, Fla., Saturday.

Wright showed up here Saturday after an ill-fated motor trip from his home in New Orleans during which his car developed engine trouble and broke down. No sooner had Wright arrived in Sanford than he was hustled away from the newspaper reporters and taken to Bethune-Cookman College here. He was to have remained at the school until joined by Robinson on Monday.

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ROBINSON WAS reported on his way here from Pensacola, Fla., in the Jim Crow section of a bus. He had been "bumped" from his airplane along with two other passengers "because the plane could not refuel to capacity with the weight of the three aboard. That was the Dodgers' explanation.

The Montreal club did not work out at all on Sunday at Sanford.

However, while things went along pretty much as was expected, the talk around Sanford on Saturday and Sunday was whether Robinson could overcome the terrific handicaps. The first Negro in organized baseball in many a day—there were several in the International League in 1887 and 1888—faces a serious handicap. In the first place both Wright and Robinson must live apart from the Montreal club due to Florida's segregation laws. In the second place, everything the two men do will be under sharp surveillance.

Robinson, because of his college background and the fact that he was a lieutenant in the recent World War although not serving overseas, will be asked to match his ability against a cordon of shortstops, the like of which few ball clubs have ever had.

Had it been in 1945, Robinson would have found that he had a great chance to make the Dodgers team. This year he is a 7 to 1 shot, not to even make the Montreal club. 3-9-46

IN SANFORD SUNDAY, it was brought out that there are six crack shortstops on the Brooklyn team. If Rickey, in signing both Robinson and Wright, believes he is getting by the New York Fair Employment Practice law, he may have a second guess coming. If Rickey is sincere, he is up against the proposition of trading some of these infielders to make way for Robinson, a move few believe he will make.

Both white and Negro fans in this section point out that Pee Wee Reese, Stan Rojek, Tommy Brown, Claude Corbitt, Barney White and Eddie Basinski, all of major league proven ability, are the property of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Basinski played regular at short for the Dodgers last year.

The Montreal Royals have an idol of the French-dominated city of Montreal whose name in Stan Breard. He is a French Canadian and is a product of the Montreal sandlots. There also are some great white youngsters in the Sanford camp ready to take a good whack at triple-A baseball. No other position on the Dodgers or the Montreal club is so well stocked as shortstop. 3-9-46

It would be therefore unfair to expect too much of Robinson. He is being asked to take a place in major league baseball overnight. He is not what Joe Louis is to boxing and the fair-minded point out that it took Louis sometime to get where he is.

Robinson is expected by most Negro fans—and a great many whites who want to see the Negro ball player make the big league grade—to make a fast rush to stardom but these fans do not take into consideration the fact that the International League this year will be tougher than ever before. It is almost like asking too much of Robinson.

In the meantime everybody will watch both Robinson and Wright—those wanting to see both men make good will do a heap of praying and hoping. Sat. 3-4-46

Robinson, Wright, Negro Players, Start Training at Sanford Camp

The New York Times

Report to Montreal Royals Hoping to Make Good—Rickey Avoids Camera Posing—Dodger Rookies Are Beaten, 6 to 3

New York, N.Y.
Tue. 3-5-46

By ROSCOE McGOWEN
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., March 4—Jack Roosevelt Robinson, first negro to be signed to an organized baseball contract since the turn of the century, entered the Sanford Ball Park at 10 o'clock this morning in an unlettered uniform and promptly sounded the keynote of the difficult symphony he will attempt to lead for his race.

"Well," he said, to Bob Finch, assistant to President Branch Rickey, "this is it."

The mahatma was not present, having remained at Daytona Beach, and the business of posing with Robinson for the numerous photographers was left to Finch.

Although John Wright, right-handed negro pitcher, also was making his training debut in organized baseball, he drew little attention from the cameramen, who made dozens of shots of Robinson in various poses.

Ready for Smaller League

Robinson answered all questions from newspapermen readily and frankly. Asked whether he is willing to go to a lower classification if he does not make the Montreal club, Jackie smiled and said:

"Oh, yes. I don't know whether I can make it—I just hope I can. But I've seen only about fice major league games in my life and I've never seen these fellows play. So I don't know what the competition is."

The reception of Robinson and Wright by the players present, most of whom are attached to the St. Paul Club, apparently was much the same accorded to any rookie player. Jackie met one old friend, Big Bob Daley, an outfielder, who hails from California.

Daley said he had been at Atascadero, Calif., near San Luis Obispo, at a "new youth association" camp, where Jackie was an assistant to the baseball coach, and had played ball with him. He said Jackie was very fast and "a pretty good hitter."

Daley was with the Spokane Club in 1942 and since has been in the service. Tue. 3-5-46

Faces Mechanical Pitcher

Robinson's first workout in its early stages was confined to taking his turn at bat against the mechanical pitcher and later in the other cage in regular batting practice.

Wright meanwhile buside himself in a pepper game and then was the first man on the mound when the second group of pitchers was called in for the drill in covering first base.

Robinson said he weighs about 195 pounds now but would like to be down to 180, his weight when he played with U. C. L. A. When it was remarked that the extra weight didn't show, he grinned and said:

"It's in my feet."

He played a number of games in Caracas and Maracaibo this winter, and said he hit about .350." One of the pitchers he faced there is Alex Carrasquel, the Venezuelan who recently was acquired by the White Sox, but who, Robinson said, he understood was going to join the Mexican League when he left Venezuela. "I haven't played ball since Jan. 1," said Jackie, "but I've been on the golf course every day and that has put my legs in shape."

Couldn't Beat Louis at Golf

Robinson shoots in the eighties, incidentally, but wasn't quite good enough to beat Joe Louis in a match he played with the heavyweight champion while both were in the service.

Jackie was born in Cairo, Ga., Jan. 31, 1919, and moved to Pasadena, Calif., with his parents when a year old. He attended Muir Technical High and Pasadena Junior College there and later starred at football with U. C. L. A., getting several All-American nominations. Tue. 3-5-46

Wright, born in New Orleans, is a sandlotter and has played with Newark in the Negro National League, the Toledo (Ohio) Crawfords and the Homestead (Pa.) Grays. In the Navy he was a member of the Great Lakes all-Negro varsity and the Brooklyn Naval Air Base team.

Like Robinson, Wright is signed to a Montreal contract.

Both Negro players have been housed in Sanford, Robinson at the home of David Brock, well-to-do Negro realtor, and will don their uniforms there each day instead of in the clubhouse.

In this corner

Daily Worker
New York

Another Blow Against Jimcrow: Let's Pile It On!

1-30-46

Bill Mardo

Yes, there's cause for real rejoicing at the news of John Wright being signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers' farm team in Montreal.

Surely this represents another giant stride forward in the campaign to completely blast Jimcrow from our National Pastime.

BUT—there is still much to be done before the hideous color ban is finally buried. Much work, much mass pressure, renewed protest against those other 15 major league teams who haven't as yet taken a single step toward the signing of Negro stars.

JACKIE ROBINSON

It's of the utmost importance that now, even with the Wright signing, we don't become overly optimistic nor slacken our anti-Jimcrow pace. The best way to gage just how far this fight still has to go can be done by thinking for a moment of this struggle in very simple arithmetical terms. Only one—only one out of 16 major league teams has taken the preliminary step of hiring a Negro player for its farm team. The moguls of 15 other big-league clubs are still in there pitching for Bilbo, Rankin and a stiff named Hitler. 1-30-46

Larry MacPhail of the Yankees, who loves to be considered "The Great Liberal" of organized baseball, continues to defy the Ives-Quinn bill which makes discrimination in industry unlawful in New York state.

Horace Stoneham of the New York Giants is likewise ignoring this law which has long been dry on the statute books in Albany but which has yet to be applied in life at the Polo Grounds.

The progressives of this city who fought so hard to insure the state FEPC bill, must fight even harder to prevent it from becoming a mockery.

NOW—with the tremendous wedge being driven into baseball's Jimcrow by Jackie Robinson and John Wright—now is the time to renew the end-Jimcrow-in-baseball campaign.

Within a month, the eyes of all America will be focused on the playing field at Daytona Beach. The issue will then become a topic of discussion and concern for every democratic sports lover in this country. As Jackie Robinson turns in those spectacular plays of his at shortstop; as John Wright blazes across his fast ball underneath the hot Florida sun—at that precise moment will the hypocrisy and stupidity of Jimcrow be mirrored across America in letters large enough for even the most narrow-minded to understand.

That's why the end-Jimcrow-in-baseball campaign should be taken up with ever greater force NOW. Never has the opportunity been so ripe to score success. The excuses, alibis and do-nothings of the reactionary big-league moguls will be shown up in its proper light by what will be happening down at Daytona Beach.

The great trade union movement, knee-deep though it is in its historic wage struggles, should allot the time and energy to defeat the Jimcrow policies of the baseball monopolists. This fight has much in common with the unions' battles against the owners of steel, electric and auto. Lick a reactionary on one front, and you're digging a body-blow deep into the guts of the anti-people's forces on a different front. 1-30-46

So too should the progressive youth, veterans and civic organizations get into this fight with both fists flying. Keep the phone wires hot with your calls to the Yankee and Giant offices. Organize delegations to immediately visit the club owners. And steps should be taken to guarantee that when the magnates go South for spring training there'll be organizations and trade unions to pick up the campaign there, too.

This is the best way we can show our joy at the news of John Wright's signing. This is the best way we can guarantee that Jimcrow in our National Pastime will not recuperate from its death-throes.

This is the best way of making sure that soon there will be a third Negro in organized baseball. And a fourth . . . and a fifth.

Daytona Beach Officials Welcome Two Negro Stars

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

DAYTON BEACH, Fla.—(ANP)—This city officially okayed a mixed training program for baseball players here last week when Mayor William Perry and City Manager James M. Titus welcomed Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright, the two Negro stars signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers to their Montreal Royals team, to train here with their white teammates.

Mayor Perry said "no one objects to Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright training here with the Montreal baseball club. The city officials and the population in general simply regard them as two more ball players conditioning themselves here. We welcome them and wish them the best of luck."

The mayor's statement, along with similar remarks by Titus, definitely dispels any idea that the two Negro members of the Montreal Royals will be confronted with a hostile or belligerent population when they begin their training here, although they will be compelled to adhere to local jim crow laws.

Tues 3-12-46

They will not be permitted to stay with their teammates at the white hotels here, but will have to live with prominent citizens. They must observe all rigid laws of racial discrimination and segregation, both city officials said.

Pittsburgh Courier
SPORTS

MAJOR LEAGUE PROSPECT—History was made when Johnny Wright, 27-year-old resident of 1705 St. Peter Street, New Orleans, was signed for a tryout with the Montreal Royals of the International League, farm club of the Brooklyn Dodgers, and became the second colored youth to get such a chance. Jackie Robinson of UCLA was signed by the same club last winter. Wright, who won thirty games and lost only five for the World Champion Homestead Grays before being inducted into the Navy in 1943, is shown here with his famly. On the floor are his daughter, Joyce Carol, 7, and son, Sylvester, 6. Seated, left to right, are Mrs. Richard Wright, mother; Johnny and his wife, the former Mildred Creecy, and Mrs. Bertha Creecy, his wife's mother. Standing is his father, Richard Wright. They are reading a newspaper account of Wright's signing with Montreal.—Exclusive Dutton Photo.

Johnny Wright, Ex-Gob, Says He Is "Very Lucky"

Courier
Pittsburg, Pa.

New Orleans Pitcher Who Beat Chicago and Boston Teams of American League Vows to Give the Best That Is in Him as Member of International League's Royals During Exclusive Interview With The Pittsburgh Courier

2-9-46

By LUCIUS JONES, Staff Correspondent

NEW ORLEANS—Like Jackie Robinson, former all-round athlete of the University of California at Los Angeles and shortstop of the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro American League, the Crescent City's own Johnny Wright, former hurler for the Newarks Eagles, Toledo Crawfords and the Homestead Grays, considers himself "mighty lucky" to be nominated for a chance to crash the hitherto lily-white ranks of organized baseball for the first time in all major loop diamond history.

Robinson was signed last winter to a contract with the Montreal Royals of the International League, farm club of the Brooklyn Dodgers, by Branch Rickey, president of the latter enterprise, and Hector Racine, president of the minor league outfit. Wright's formal signing with the same club by the same officials was announced last week in an Associated Press release.

SENSATIONAL IN 1943

Wright, who was honorably discharged from the Navy the past Christmas Eve and, except for his departure for the formal conference with the Brooklyn and Montreal moguls which resulted in his being signed, has been here with his family the entire period since that time. He was inducted Nov. 6, 1943, after a great season with the Pennsylvania-based Homestead Grays for whom, that campaign, he won thirty and lost only five in all games played and was defeated only once in contests of the Negro National League. His efforts helped to win both the league title and "Negro World Series" championship for his mates.

The Pelican kid played baseball with J. W. Hoffman Junior High School and the sandlot Lincoln Giants and Zulus of New Orleans in 1935 and 1936 before moving to the Newark Eagles in 1937 and sticking around until the middle of the 1939 season, following which he joined the Toledo Crawfords and remained a year and a half. With Vic Harris at the helm, he became a member of the touted Grays for the first time in 1941. He was with the club under the immortal Candy Jim Taylor when he put that great 1943 performance and then was hied off in Uncle Sam's Navy.

FACED BIG LEAGUE OUTFITS

The capable 27-year-old flinger continued his baseball in the Navy, playing with a mixed Floyd Bennett Naval Air Base nine in New York which gave him chances to work nine full innings apiece against the Bost Red Sox, who beat him 9-6, the Brooklyn Dodgers, who beat him 6-4, and the Chicago White Sox, whom he defeated 9-6. He had one other colored teammate and said, "The white boys treated me swell; we had nothing but agreeableness and harmony."

The star pitcher, who now ranges 5 feet, 11½ inches tall, and weighs 172 pounds, also played with the all-colored nine of Great Lakes, Ill., for which outfit he won sixteen and lost four, and aided in winning the coveted Midwestern Servicemen's Baseball Championship. His teammates were a host of other former stars of colored major league and crack semi-pro outfits.

2-9-46

MARRIED NINE YEARS

The New Orleans boy's full name is John Richard Wright and he lives at 1705 St. Peter Street in the Lafitte Housing Project. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wright of 2800 Mistletoe Street and a member of St. John Baptist Church. Johnny has been married nine years to the former Mildred Creecy, daughter of Mrs. Bertha Creecy, and they have a daughter, Joyce Carol, 7, and son, Sylvester, 6, both students of nearby J. A. Craig Elementary School.

"My greatest thrill?" Wright asked in surprise when this question was put. He didn't have to reflect but a second or two . . . "It was in Ebbetts Field before I did the hitch in the Navy," he said. "I stopped the big bats of Chuck Dressen's major league all-stars for six scoreless innings in a game called because of darkness caused by low hanging clouds. The major leaguers had such stars as Pitcher Virgil (Fire) Trucks, the smoke ball artist of the Detroit Tigers; Catcher Clyde Kluttz of the Boston Braves, and Infielder Ed Stanky of the Chicago Cubs and Brooklyn Dodgers," Wright related in closing the exclusive interview.

Montreal Signs Negro Pitcher

B'M. New York

The Brooklyn Dodgers confirmed today that another Negro baseball player has been signed to a contract by the Montreal Royals, No. 1 farm club. He is John R. Wright, 27-year-old right-handed pitcher from New Orleans. 1-30-46

Wright made the announcement to the United Press in his home town and said he will report to Daytona Beach, where the Dodgers and the Royals will train, on March 1.

Wright was listed by the wire service as a sandlot player, but he was much more than that, having been a star starter for the Homestead Grays in the Negro American League for a couple of seasons.

Wright will now join Jackie Robinson, the ex-UCLA All-America and shortstop for the Kansas City Monarchs who was signed by Branch Rickey several months ago.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 29 (AP)—John R. Wright was optimistic today about his own chances, and of others like him, in big-time baseball.

"There'll be more and more colored boys getting ahead in professional sports," he said. "I got this far by plugging, and I expect to keep on punching. That's all it takes." 1-31-46

The pitcher, who is a Navy dischargee, went from sandlot baseball to his first paying job with the Zulus, a novelty team here in 1936. Scouted while playing in Louisville, Ky., he was signed by the Newark Eagles in the Negro National League in 1937. Subsequently he has been on the line-up of the Toledo (Ohio) Crawfords, the Homestead (Pa.) Grays, the Great Lakes Naval Station All-Negro varsity team and the Brooklyn Naval Air Base team.

NEGRO PITCHER SIGNED

New York Times

New Orleans Man Joins Robinson on Montreal Club Roster

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Jan. 29 (AP)—Hector H. Racine, president of the Montreal Baseball Club, the No. 1 farm of the Brooklyn Dodgers, announced today the signing o fa second Negro ball players to join his outfit.

The new player is John R. Wright of New Orleans, a 27-year-old right-handed pitcher, who has played only semi-pro ball so far.

Last October the club signed the California Nego star, Jackie Robinson, to play shortstop.

Wright Nicked in Royal Bow

Baltimore, Md.
Afro American

SYRACUSE, N.Y.—John Wright, former Homestead Gray pitching ace, was touched for five hits in three and one-third innings as he took up a relief stint in his first appearance in organized baseball here Wednesday.

Wright replaced Jack Banta, white Montreal starting hurler, in the fourth frame with the score 6-1 against him. He in turn was supplanted in the eighth by Ted Fisher, also white.

Wright, however, had a perfect day at bat, registering a two-base hit on his only trip to the plate. Jul 5-4-46

Syracuse won the game, 11-4, dropping Montreal from third to fourth place.

Pittsburgh Courier SPORTS

MAJOR LEAGUE PROSPECT—History was made when Johnny Wright, 27-year-old resident of 1705 St. Peter Street, New Orleans, was signed for a tryout with the Montreal Royals of the International League, farm club of the Brooklyn Dodgers, and became the second colored youth to get such a chance. Jackie Robinson of UCLA was signed by the same club last winter. Wright, who won thirty games and lost only five for the World Champion Homestead Grays before being inducted into the Navy in 1943, is shown here with his famly. On the floor are his daughter, Joyce Carol, 7, and son, Sylvester, 6. Seated, left to right, are Mrs. Richard Wright, mother; Johnny and his wife, the former Mildred Creecy, and Mrs. Bertha Creecy, his wife's mother. Standing is his father, Richard Wright. They are reading a newspaper account of Wright's signing with Montreal.—Exclusive Dutton Photo.

Johnny Wright, Ex-Gob, Says He Is "Very Lucky"

New Orleans Pitcher Who Beat Chicago and Boston Teams of American League Vows to Give the Best That Is in Him as Member of International League's Royals During Exclusive Interview With The Pittsburgh Courier

By LUCIUS JONES, Staff Correspondent

NEW ORLEANS—Like Jackie Robinson, former all-round athlete of the University of California at Los Angeles and shortstop of the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro American League, the Crescent City's own Johnny Wright, former hurler for the Newarks Eagles, Toledo Crawfords and the Homestead Grays, considers himself "mighty lucky" to be nominated for a chance to crash the hitherto lily-white ranks of organized baseball for the first time in all major loop diamond history.

Robinson was signed last winter to a contract with the Montreal Royals of the International League, farm club of the Brooklyn Dodgers, by Branch Rickey, president of the latter enterprise, and Hector Racine, president of the minor league outfit. Wright's formal signing with the same club by the same officials was announced last week in an Associated Press release.

SENSATIONAL IN 1943

Wright, who was honorably discharged from the Navy the past Christmas Eve and, except for his departure for the formal conference with the Brooklyn and Montreal moguls which resulted in his being signed, has been here with him family the entire period since that time. He was inducted Nov. 6, 1943, after a great season with the Pennsylvania-based Homestead Grays for whom, that campaign, he won thirty and lost only five in all games played and was defeated only once in contests of the Negro National League. His efforts helped to win both the league title and "Negro World Series" championship for his mates.

The Pelican kid played baseball with J. W. Hoffman Junior High School and the sandlot Lincoln Giants and Zulus of New Orleans in 1935 and 1936 before moving to the Newark Eagles in 1937 and sticking around until the middle of the 1939 season, following which he joined the Toledo Crawfords and remained a year and a half.

With Vic Harris at the helm, he became a member of the touted Grays for the first time in 1941. He was with the club under the immortal Candy Jim Taylor when he put that great 1943 performance and then was hied off in Uncle Sam's Navy.

FACED BIG LEAGUE OUTFITS

The capable 27-year-old flinger continued his baseball in the Navy, playing with a mixed Floyd Bennett Naval Air Base nine in New York which gave him chances to work nine full innings apiece against the Bost Red Sox, who beat him 9-6; the Brooklyn Dodgers, who beat him 6-4, and the Chicago White Sox, whom he defeated 9-6. He had one other colored teammate and said, "The white boys treated me swell; we had nothing but agreeableness and harmony."

The star pitcher, who now ranges 5 feet, 11½ inches tall, and weighs 172 pounds, also played with the all-colored nine of Great Lakes, Ill., for which outfit he won sixteen and lost four, and aided in winning the coveted Midwestern Servicemen's Baseball Championship. His teammates were a host of other former stars of colored major league and crack semi-pro outfits.

MARRIED NINE YEARS

The New Orleans boy's full name is John Richard Wright and he lives at 1705 St. Peter Street in the Lafitte Housing Project. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wright of 2800 Mistletoe Street and a member of St. John Baptist Church. Johnny has been married nine years to the former Mildred Creecy, daughter of Mrs. Bertha Creecy, and they have a daughter, Joyce Carol, 7, and son, Sylvester, 6, both students of nearby J. A. Craig Elementary School.

"My greatest thrill?" Wright asked in surprise when this question was put. He didn't have to reflect but a second or two . . . "It was in Ebbetts Field before I did the hitch in the Navy," he said. "I stopped the big bats of Chuck Dressen's major league all-stars for six scoreless innings in a game called because of darkness caused by low hanging clouds. The major leaguers had such stars as Pitcher Virgil (Fire) Trucks, the smoke ball artist of the Detroit Tigers; Catcher Clyde Kluttz of the Boston Braves, and Infielder Ed Stanky of the Chicago Cubs and Brooklyn Dodgers," Wright related in closing the exclusive interview.

Montreal Signs Negro Pitcher

The Brooklyn Dodgers confirmed today that another Negro baseball player has been signed to a contract by the Montreal Royals, No. 1 farm club. He is John R. Wright, 27-year-old righthanded pitcher from New Orleans.

Wright made the announcement to the United Press in his home town and said he will report to Daytona Beach, where the Dodgers and the Royals will train, on March 1.

Wright was listed by the wire service as a sandlot player, but he was much more than that, having been a star starter for the Homestead Grays in the Negro American League for a couple of seasons.

Wright will now join Jackie Robinson, the ex-UCLA All-America and shortstop for the Kansas City Monarchs who was signed by Branch Rickey several months ago.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 29 (AP)—John R. Wright was optimistic today about his own chances, and of others like him, in big-time baseball.

"There'll be more and more colored boys getting ahead in professional sports," he said. "I got this far by plugging, and I expect to keep on punching. That's all it takes."

The pitcher, who is a Navy dischargee, went from sandlot baseball to his first paying job with the Zulus, a novelty team here in 1936. Scouted while playing in Louisville, Ky., he was signed by the Newark Eagles in the Negro National League in 1937. Subsequently he has been on the line-up of the Toledo (Ohio) Crawfords, the Homestead (Pa.) Grays, the Great Lakes Naval Station All-Negro varsity team and the Brooklyn Naval Air Base team.

NEGRO PITCHER SIGNED

New Orleans Man Joins Robinson on Montreal Club Roster

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Jan. 29 (AP)—Hector H. Racine, president of the Montreal Baseball Club, the No. 1 farm of the Brooklyn Dodgers, announced today the signing o fa second Negro ball players to join his outfit.

The new player is John R. Wright of New Orleans, a 27-year-old right-handed pitcher, who has played only semi-pro ball so far.

Last October the club signed the California Nego star, Jackie Robinson, to play shortstop.

Wright Nicked in Royal Bow

SYRACUSE, N.Y.—John Wright, former Homestead Gray pitching ace, was touched for five hits in three and one-third innings as he took up a relief stint in his first appearance in organized baseball here Wednesday.

Wright replaced Jack Banta, white Montreal starting hurler, in the fourth frame with the score 6-1 against him. He in turn was supplanted in the eighth by Ted Fisher, also white.

Wright, however, had a perfect day at bat, registering a two-base hit on his only trip to the plate.

Syracuse won the game, 11-4, dropping Montreal from third to fourth place.

'This Is Great!' Says John Wright

By C. E. DEXTER

A tall, lean man with a wiry right arm has been added to the pitching staff of the Montreal Royals. His name is John Wright—and no one outside of the Canadian metropolis would be much interested in the announcement if John were not a Negro.

He happens of course, to have been signed by the Royals. He will join Jackie at the Dodgers' Royals' camp at Dayton Beach, Florida, on March 1.

And please remember: the Dodgers are low on pitchers. And oh, how that Wright can pitch!

I met him to weeks ago in the Brooklyn Dodger office on the day he signed a contract with Branch Rickey. He told me that he was delighted with his opportunity, "All I'm concerned about is making good," he said. "I can take everything else in stride.

"It's an honor and a privilege to fight discrimination this way—and I'm going to work my arm off to prove that Mr. Rickey's confidence in me is not misplaced."

Wright hails from New Orleans, where he attended and pitched for Hayden High School. He married down there and is the father of two children. He expects to bring his family to Montreal for the Summer.

Wright was one of the stars of the Negro leagues, until he enlisted in the Navy in 1943. He pitched for the Homestead Grays, one of the two leading Negro teams; and also for the Newark Eagles. His last full season's record with the Grays was 31 won and five lost. During his four years' activities, he pitched two no-hit games.

Wright reported to Great Lakes and took up pitching duties with Naval Station team which won a pennant in 1944 in the Midwest District League. In 1945 he found himself at the Naval Air Base at Floyd Bennett field, pitching for another mixed Sailor outfit. He faced three major league clubs, losing to the Red Sox and Dodgers, winning from the Chicago White Sox.

It was during the Dodger game that coach Chuck Dressen remarked on Wright's speed and control, and Branch Rickey scouts were ordered to check up on his record. Later in the season, he pitched one of the halves of a Negro All-star, National League All-Star double header at Ebbets Field. He gave three hits and no runs to the assorted N. L. stars. He fanned something like 11 men that day. That was the clincher. Wright was offered terms which he accepted.

"I played on the same teams with and against white players and I've always been treated courteously. I already know several boys on the Dodger roster," Wright told me, "and I know I won't feel homesick in Florida, with Jackie Robinson around and with the other big-league acquaintances I made during my Navy service," he added.

Unlike Robinson, Wright is not a college man. He comes from the ranks of Negro players, scores of whom are qualified to compete in organized baseball. Nor will he be the last Negro to be signed this Spring for places in the Dodger chain. At least three, possibly four more Negroes are expected to write their names on the dotted line by May 15.

According to a Dodger official, they will be graded strictly according to ability. If they have the stuff, they will be promoted to Ebbets Field as rapidly as possible. If they are of A-A quality, they will continue with Montreal or another A-A team of the Dodger farm system.

In the words of this Dodger official: "They will all receive equal treatment, equal opportunity, and equal pay."

And concluded the 6-2, 27-year old John Wright: "I just can't wait to get a baseball in my hands. This is great. . . ."

Royals Release Johnny Wright

MONTREAL — Johnny Wright, former Homestead Grays' pitching ace and the second member of his race to be given a tryout with a team in organized baseball was released by the Montreal Royals here on Wednesday.

John Wright

Wright, who had pitched six innings of the 25 games played by the Royals to the time of his release, was sent to the Three Rivers team, another Canadian holding of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Montreal is a farm club of the Dodgers.

The pitcher left here Wednesday morning en route to his new team, located approximately 71 miles north of this city on the St. Lawrence River.

Three Rivers is a member of the Canadian-American League, a class C loop.

Signed Feb 5th

Wright was signed at his New Orleans, La., home on February 5, roughly three months after Jackie Robinson was chosen by president Branch Rickey, white, of the Dodgers, to become the first youth of his race to gain a chance in the organized game.

After a none too successful stand in the Florida training camp, where he was handicapped by a late start, Wright came north with the Royals as a regular member of the hurling corps.

Since the season's opening, however, he was called upon only twice by Manager Clay Hopper. He pitched three and one third innings against Syracuse, April 24, being nicked for five hits, and did a two-and-two-thirds inning stint against Baltimore at Baltimore April 27, holding the Orioles hitless and runless and fanning three.

Dodger Farm Signs Negro Hurler

John W. Wright, 27-year-old Negro pitching star, was signed by the Montreal Royals of the Brooklyn Dodger baseball farm system, it was announced yesterday.

Wright thus becomes the second Negro player to break into organized baseball—Jackie Robinson having been signed up by the same club last Oct. 23.

Hector Racine, president of the Montreal team, broke the news in Miami Beach, and the story was then confirmed to the Daily Worker by Harold Parrott, secretary of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Both Wright and Robinson will report to the Montreal training camp at Daytona Beach March 1.

TOP-NOTCH HURLER

Wright is generally considered one of the top-notch hurlers produced in the Negro leagues. A tall, wiry right-hander, he first broke into baseball on the New Orleans sandlot teams in 1936. From there he went to the Newark Eagles of the Negro National League—and then in turn to the Toledo Crawfords and the Homestead Grays.

He's the owner of a blazing fast ball, a sharp-breaking curve and plenty of control. Wright chalked up the amazing record of 31 wins and five setbacks in his last full season of play with the Homestead Grays before enlisting into the Navy.

While in the service, Wright pitched on the Great Lakes Naval team and also hurled for the Floyd Bennett Air Field team. With the latter mixed team, he twirled against such major league nines as the Brooklyn Dodgers, Boston Red Sox and Chicago White Sox. It was when he faced the Dodgers that the Brooklyn management first became interested in the talented Negro speed-baller.

Many messages of congratulations were sent to the Daily Worker yesterday—which has long been in the vanguard of the fight to end Jimcrow in baseball.

Revels Cayton, executive-secretary of the National Negro Congress, hailed the Wright signing, and urged that **"Larry MacPhail of the New York Yankees and Horace Stoneham of the Giants also end their disgraceful policy of Jimcrow in our great national pastime."**

Similar expressions were voiced by Max Yergan, chairman of the Council on African Affairs; Edward (Frenchie) Robinson, executive-secretary of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, and Albert Salz, of the National Maritime Union.

Montreal Sends Wright To Class C

MONTREAL—John Wright, former Baltimore Elites pitcher, signed by Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers for the Montreal Royals of the International League, has been sent to the Three Rivers Club of the Canadian-American League, it was announced by the Montreal Club.

The Three Rivers Club is a class C. The Royals management said that Wright was not of International League calibre.

Wright pitched twice in relief roles when the team was on the road.

63a 1946 Johnny Wright

LOOKING 'EM OVER

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

With Sam LACY

5-25-46

The release of Johnny Wright by the Montreal Royals does not reflect as much on Negro National League baseball as it would first appear.

Wright did not have the chance many of us had hoped he would have, nor did he prove any ball of fire when opportunity did present itself.

Your correspondent is reasonably satisfied that race had nothing to do with the fact that Montreal Manager Clay Hopper did not use the former Homestead Gray mound ace as regularly or as often as he might have used him.

Sat.

The Royal pitching staff, since the season began, was overloaded with right-handed pitching. This was pointed out by your columnist in stories filed from the Florida training camp in March. These stories explained that Wright would have a hard time breaking into the Montreal starting corps for the simple reason that he was a righthander and the club had its full quota of starboard flingers.

Wright, quite possibly, was taken on by the Brooklyn Dodger brain-trusters in order to ease the pressure on Jackie Robinson who, as the only member of his race in the fold, might not be able to do himself justice.

If the New Orleans lad could produce as a pitcher while acting as a buffer for Jackie, well and good.

After the usual pruning, however, the Montreal bosses discovered that they were topheavy with right-handed pitching and had but one southpaw, Steve Nagy, white, who at the time was just a little better than ordinary.

This situation was not helped the least bit by the return of Ray Hathaway, brilliant young righthander from the Dodgers. Hathaway was another orthodox flinger to join a staff which boasted Jack Banta and John Gabbard, two 25-game winners in 1945; Barney LeForge, Jack Paepke, Wayne Collins, Joe Smolko and Chubby Moulder, all white.

The release of Wright, therefore, might well have been expected at some time or other under the circumstances. Too, his fall was cushioned somewhat, insofar as race-conscious followers of the Royals are concerned, by the signing of Roy Partlow, ex-Philadelphia Star hurler, to replace him.

Partlow's chances to make good are enhanced by the fact that he is a lefthander and the Montreal clan is sorely in need of portside strength on its mound staff.

Wright, incidentally, was one of seven men dropped by the Royals last week, several of whom were released outright.

Johnny was sent to Three Rivers, another club in the Brooklyn Dodger chain, where, though he will take a cut of approximately $1000 over the season, he will still retain the opportunity to be recalled to the Class AAA club.

Allspice

Baltimore

Mel Jones, road secretary of the Montreal baseball club, tells the AFRO that the Royals drew twice as many paid customers in the first month of International League play as it did for the corresponding period last year.

Included among Jackie Robinson's 33 hits for the season are four doubles, one triple and one homer; the Montreal Royals have completed 36 double plays with Robbie taking part in 25; Jackie is second in stolen bases in the International League, having registered 14 against his teammate, Marvin Rackley's 17 up to Sunday's games; Brutus Wilson, ex Morgan grid-cage great and more recently athletic mentor at Winston-Salem (NC) Teachers' College, is headed for the coaching job at Shaw University, according to reliable sources.

5-25-46

Baltimore fight fans were whoozed into believing an injury to Al Hoosman caused cancellation of a Hoosman-Lee Q. Murray bout in their town on May 3, when in reality Hoosman knew nothing about the thing until told by the AFRO on the day after the fight was supposed to be held.

Sat.

They made a lot to do over Jackie Robinson and Roy Partlow as the Montreal Royals showed for the first time in Buffalo, Sunday, fans showering gifts of luggage and money on the pair as well as keys to the city. But Jackie was most impressed with a nickel-plated crucifix which an unidentified fan pressed into his hand at the height of the ceremonies and then slipped away with the simple statement: "God bless you, Jackie."

United Press reported early this week John Wright did not have enough speed to make the grade at Montreal, also gave Jackie Robinson's batting average as .283 for first 12 games; Johnny throws twice as hard as Barney LeForge, whose fast ball can't break a paper bag.

UP should have made it clear that the .283 average they gave for Jackie was for the 12-game Montreal home stand, and that Robbie's season average has never been below .300.

Negro National League's hullabaloo about its use of iron-clad organized baseball contracts just so much bilge water as evidenced by fact NNL voted Baltimore Elites out of services of Puerto Rican star Luis Marquez on grounds Homestead Grays "dickered" with player first; Elites had Marquez signed to contract. Grays had letters dated in '43 saying he'd play with them; Five clubs "dickered" with Dick Wakefield before Detroit Tigers finally got his John Henry on dotted line and nobody took him from the Tigers.

THE FACE OF JIMCROW:

Richmond Prexy 'Explains' His Robinson, Wright Ban

Daily Worker New York, New York

Thur. 4-11-46

By ALICE BURKE

Special to the Daily Worker

RICHMOND, Va., April 10.—Nine regularly scheduled Montreal Royals' exhibition games have been cancelled in five Jimcrow cities because the Royals have refused to yield to the Jimcrow pattern here which bars Jackie Robinson and John Wright from playing with their teammates.

This writer attempted today to get the dope on the cancellation of next Monday's game here between the Richmond Colts and the Royals. We spoke to Eddie Mooers, owner of the Richmond team, who evidently has played a leading part in keeping Wright and Robinson from playing here. Thur. 4-11-46

When asked why the game was cancelled, the Colts' owner at first said: "I have nothing to say . . . there is no statement." After repeating this several times, Mr. Mooers finally admitted: "I thought that by cancelling the game I was doing them (Robinson and Wright) a favor."

We asked Mooers what kind of a "favor" was that? He replied that "if they wanted to come and get insulted that's their business, but I thought I was saving them embarrassment"—because they were Negroes! Thur. 4-11-46

Pressed further, Mooers declared that he "didn't want a race riot" in his field. Asked why he had reason to believe that there would be a "riot" and had there ever been one, he evaded the question and reiterated that Robinson and Wright would be "insulted if they played in Richmond."

Trying to clear himself of cancelling the game he further excused the action by saying the field "wouldn't be ready for night playing because all the flood lights haven't been replaced yet." (It's a simple matter to put in a few bulbs and the field is being used for games right now.)

Mr. Mooers just couldn't understand why Robinson and Wright would want to come to play where they "weren't wanted."

Not wanted by whom, we asked. That wasn't answered by the Richmond baseball clubowner.

THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

"Home, Sweet Home" for the Royals . . . . .

MONTREAL, Quebec—When the big, twin-motored plane in which we were riding last Tuesday morning settled down on the smooth, white concrete run-way of the Montreal airport it marked the end of a long and winding trail which started almost 3,500 miles away in sun-kissed Daytona Beach . . . We left Baltimore at 9:15 Tuesday morning in a party of forty-four, which included the entire Montreal team and the corps of newspapermen who have been reporting the fortunes of the Royals since the opening game in Jersey City on April 18 . . . The two big cargo planes each carried twenty-two passengers and all the baseball paraphernalia, which was packed in four steamer trunks . . . The planes looked like giant, silver birds as they took off in the morning sunlight and settled their blunt noses in the direction of our destination . . . In our plane, which also included Johnny Wright, Jackie Robinson and his wife, the players played cards, slept and read newspapers . . . Joe Smolko, the big pitcher who hails from Johnstown, Pa., and got his experience pitching against the Homestead Grays and other top ranking Negro teams, grabbed a blanket, curled up in the tail of the plane and took a snooze . . . Jack Banta, the pitcher with the whip-like arm, provided the comedy by pretending that he anticipated a crash landing. He rolled his eyes as though he expected it to happen any moment and "prayer" solemnly and faked deep religious conscienceness . . . Between nods, Johnny Wright read a magazine, while Robinson and his better half were engaged in deep conversation . . . Three hours and some minutes later the 500 mile trip had been completed and the two planes came roaring into the Montreal airport . . . The first plane, which carried Manager Clay Hopper, Catcher Herman Franks, Shortstop Stanley Breard and nineteen other members of the air party landed first, and then we came in close behind. Sat. 5-11-46

Everybody gave a sigh of relief when their feet touched the ground because we were "home at last" . . . It's a long way from tropical Florida—especially by the way of Jersey City, Newark, Syracuse and Baltimore—to this distant, Northernly city that the French-Canadians call "Mon-treel!" It's a long way from the racial-conscious areas of "Dixie" in the United States to the Parisian-like atmosphere of Canada's largest city—gaily-lighted, cosmopolitan Montreal . . . And Robinson and Wright, who had worn the uncomfortable yoke of racial bias so well and so gallantly in the Southland, took an extra sigh of relief because they were now on "free" land; they had finally arrived at the place on which they had set their sights since the day Branch Rickey handed them a contract to play with the Montreal Royals . . . That was during the crisp, wind-swept days of last October and ever since then they'd been looking anxiously in the direction of Montreal. This marked the end of "The Long Voyage Home!"

Into the Canadian customs offices we went, where they inspected our luggage and asked a few routine questions . . . On the outside a host of representatives of the famous Elks lodge waited to greet Robinson and Wright . . . They were led by genial Frank Ellis, director of the Elks athletic activities, who is so interested in this epoch-making experiment that he followed the team from his home in Syracuse, N. Y. to Baltimore and then flew here to Montreal for the local opener . . . Big Frank, with his broad, winning smile introduced his fraternal brothers to Robinson and Wright and they in turn showered the two players with congratulations and wished them continued good luck . . . We piled into the big bus that was to take us into Montreal proper and before long we were in the heart of the city, with its broad streets, hustle and bustle and gay atmosphere . . . The English armies conquered Canada a long time ago, but in this particular section the French influence still remains, even to the language. The names of the streets are French, the signs on the store windows are in French and English, three of the big daily papers here are French and at the ball park the announcer gives the fans the lineups in English and then in French. This is a city of two languages, with eighty-five per cent of the population attending the Catholic church and speaking the language of France. Sat. 5-11-46

* * *

Wright Tries Out His French . . . . .

Johnny Wright probably felt more at home than any of the Americans in the party . . . He hails from the gay city of New Orleans and is familar, in a way, with the atmosphere here. In fact, Wright experiemented with the make-shift French he learned from the Creoles in the Crescent City and was pleasantly surprised when he was understood . . . There was a mad scramble for places to stay, with some of the players only having fair success . . . Like most of the metropolitan cities in the United States, Montreal is overrun with people who came here from the villages and farms during the war . . . Now that things are returning to normalcy, an unemployment problem is developing, but the housing shortage is as acute as ever . . Robinson and Wright are staying at a rooming house for the time being. Appeals are being made via the newspapers and radio in behalf of the Montreal players for homes . . . It's getting results but in a slow sort of way.

The "Rollicking Royals" played their first home game of the season Wednesday afternoon before a colorful throng of 16,144 partisan fans at Delorimier Park, the smart little ball orchard which was part of the parcel that Branch Rickey paid a reported $400,000 for when he purchased the Montreal team and franchise in the International . . Significantly, Jackie Robinson scored the first run of the 1946 season on home soil for Montreal in the first inning when he walked and scored soon after on Les Burge's belt into left . . . When Robinson strolled to the plate to take his first swings as a Montreal player, it was the first time the fans here had been given an opportunity to show how they felt about his presence on their ball club . . . As was expected, they gave out with an ovation seldom equalled in the history of the Montreal team . . . When he stepped into the box, Robinson was greeted with thunderous applause . . . It was a warm, spontaneous reception . . . Greater, even, than those he received in Jersey City, Newark, Syracuse and Baltimore . . He got his first base hit on home soil in the sixth, when he singled sharply to left . . . Once again the fans gave him a big hand . . . Although Robinson was not quite as scintillating in the opener here as he was in the lid-lifter at Jersey City, which was the day he hit a home run and got three other hits besides, he did well enough and the crowd was just as colorful and appreciative.

* * *

Jackie Meets Another Mayor . . . . .

The pre-game ceremonies here were just as impressive as those in Jersey City on the official opening day. However, the flag that was unfurled on the centerfield flag pole in Jersey City was a bunting of stars and stripes and the 25,000 fans stood up and sang the "Star Spangled Banner" . . . But here in Montreal it was the famous Union Jack that fluttered in the brisk Canadian air and the song they stood up to sing was—"There'll Always Be An England" . . In Jersey City it was portly Mayor Frank Hague who threw out the first ball. Here in Montreal, it was His Honor Mayor Camillien Houde, just as portly, if you please, but distinctly a decendant of the famous French . Midway-way in the ball game, Mayor Houde consented to pose with Robinson for a picture. With photographers from the French and English papers surrounding them on all sides, the Mayor and Robinson met for the first time and exchanged greetings. His Honor welcomed the bronze second-sacker to Montreal. Robinson thanked him and said he was extremely glad to be a member of the Montreal team.

Meaunwhile, Johnny Wright, who remains modest and inconspicious, was sitting on the bench to be called to duty if Manager Hopper decided it was necessary. Throughout all the fanfare over Robinson, Wright has been more or less lost in the shadows of the dugout and bullpen. The highly publicized Robinson, whose background provided better "copy" for the press, has constantly been in the limelight. The fact that he plays every day has also kept him before the public. Wright, on the other hand, is a pitcher and consequently has only been seen at intervals, and they have been brief and

irregular. But despite the fact that he has been virtually lost in the brilliance and glow that has encircled Robinson, the tall pitcher from New Orleans has never shown an inkling of resentment or jealousy. He remains quiet and reserved. He sits day in and day out waiting to prove he has the ability to shine in his own right. He goes his way, paying little or no attention to the hullabuloo heaped upon his teammate. Sat. 5-11-46

While Robinson seems to be exposing himself to the dangerous disease commonly diagnosed as "Publicity-itis," Wright's case is similar to that of the perfectly healthy man who is constantly being dragged into the physician's office as a patient with one foot in the

Stickwork Seen Key to Job As Robinson Begins Tryouts

Daily Worker. New York N.Y. Mon. 3-4-46

Mon. 3-4-46

By BILL MARDO
Daily Worker Sports Editor

SANFORD, Fla., March 3.—The historic opening workouts of the two Negro baseball stars, Jackie Robinson and John Wright, will begin here today as the shortstop and pitcher take the field with the Montreal Royals. Meanwhile writers have been surprised at the knowledge Branch Rickey has of the many Negro players.

When Rickey said last year that he had thoroughly scouted the Negro leagues—believe me, the Mahatma wasn't kidding. This morning on the ball park, while a hundred or so hopefuls were going through their paces, the Dodger prexy had an informal conversation with Sam Lacey, sports editor of the Negro weekly. The Baltimore Afro-American. I was amazed at the fund of knowledge Rickey owns regarding Negro players both in this country and South America. He reeled off their schooling, family background, batting averages, height, weight and abilities as intimately as he would have done about Pee-Wee Reese or Dixie Walker.

And all of Rickey's scouts here display a similar interest and knowledge of the Negro leagues. Yes, it's quite obvious that the Dodger organization has really put in a lot of time and effort on this proposition.

STIFF COMPETITION

The general feeling here among the scribes and scouts is that Jackie Robinson faces a terrific task. Never have the Dodgers been so completely stacked in talented shortstops. Pee-Wee Reese is out of this world, as you well know, and they say this kid Stan Rojek is almost the equal of the great Pee-Wee. There's a fellow named Claude Corbit who's also labelled in the plenty-good class.

Then consider the fact that Montreal's regular shortstop, Stan Breardon, is immensely popular with the Canadian fans and also that he racked up the best fielding average in the loop last year.

STICKWORK MAY DECIDE

So you can see that Jackie Robinson has his work cut out for him in chunks much larger than does the average player in trying out for any other berth. It seems to me that a lot will depend on Robinson's stickwork. Breardon hit .275 for Montreal in '45—although Montreal scouts say he's an improving hitter. Now Robinson batted .345 last year with Kansas City Monarchs, and against a grade of pitching that was nothing to sneeze at.

So a lot depends upon how Jackie fares against the Spring training twirlers he'll be facing during the coming weeks. There's no question that the flashy fielding shortstop is in fine condition. He played ball with a Negro all-stars team during December and January in Venezuela—and so the former UCLA gridiron hero won't need as much preliminary limbering-up, probably as will pitcher Johnnie Wright, who spent the off-season with his family in New Orleans. Mon. 3-4-46

AN ALL-STAR TEAM

Incidentally, that was quite a crew Robinson toured Venezuela with—many fellows on it who should undoubtedly be getting the same opportunity to crack the big leagues. The Negro all-stars infield had slugging Buck Leonard at first base; the tremendously talented Jesse Williams covered second; Jackie Robinson held down the short stop slot; and Parnell Woods and Quincy Trouppe, both of the Cleveland Buckeyes, played third base and catcher respectively.

Sam Jethroe and Mel Barker were two of the outfielders while Ray Wellmaker of the Homestead Greys and Verdell Maythis of the Memphis Rex Sox, handled the twirling chores.

There was a load of big-league talent in that one line-up alone.

One Montreal official speculated to me on Robinson's chances of converting into a third-sacker because of the abundance of shortstop talent present. Montreal has a real hole at third base—has had for years, ever since Roy Hughes left to play with the Cubs. Last season's Montreal third-sackers were Pat Hart and Ray Nichols—neither of whom made too much of an impression. Mon. 3-4-46

But all this speculation was highly unofficial, coming from one individual alone, and doesn't represent the thinking of the Montreal bigwigs. It would be unfair to discuss Robinson shifting to any other position, prior to him having every chance in the world to flash his shortstop talent.

And in all fairness to the Brooklyn and Montreal scouts, let me say they seem quite sincere in declaring: "It's all up to Robinson now. If he's good enough—he'll stick with us. The same thing naturally applies to Wright."

Which is fair enough. All I have to add is: The fight to end jimcrow in baseball has only begun. Let's see more Negroes signed up and given a chance to show their stuff. It would be grossly unjust to have the entire issue of Negroes in organized baseball rest upon the shoulders on only two men.

Robinson Hits; Wright Rounds Into Good Form

Daily Worker New York N.Y. Fri. 5-3-46

By BILL MARDO

Up to and including Monday night's game at Baltimore, Jackie Robinson was rolling along with an amazing .378 batting average, as a result of 17-hits in 45 times at the plate.

"When a man is hitting like Robinson is, all the manager can do is nod his head and smile," commented Montreal mentor Clay Hopper earlier this week. "Robinson has the second base berth sewed up."

In a Monday night game in Baltimore, the Negro second baseman had his first "perfect" time at bat. He poled out two singles, a double, scored four runs and stole his tenth base of the season. Robinson got on base in five trips to the plate that night, for in addition to his three hits he drew a walk once and was hit by a pitched ball the other time. Fri. 5-3-46

Meanwhile, pitcher Johnny Wright is beginning to find himself on the mound. After an unimpressive debut in a relief stint against Syracuse last week, where he yielded four runs on five hits and three walks during the three and one-third innings he worked—the wiry Negro right-hander really flashed wonderful form last Saturday night in another relief job against Baltimore. Hurling the last two and one-half frames, Wright breezed through without giving up a hit to the Oriole batsmen, and in the eighth inning he fanned the entire side in 1-2-3-order. Johnny's fast ball was really "alive" and his sharp breaking curve had the Baltimore stickmen fanning the air.

Pressure Actual and Racial

P.M. New York, N.Y. Fri. 3-29-46

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., Mar. 29.—Jackie Robinson and John Wright, the first Negroes ever signed to contracts in organized baseball, have been in camp here with the Montreal Royals for one month and still are under terrific pressure, pressure which Robinson, the UCLA athlete, shows on the surface, but which Wright conceals from the casual observer.

Pressure and athletic competition are synonymous. Any white boy, up from the ranks of independent and semi-pro ball trying to make good with a Triple-A outfit in this year of rosters cluttered with returning war veterans, would find the pressure heavy.

In the cases of Robinson and Wright, both are conscious of the fact that they are representing their race in a sport which hitherto slammed the door in their faces.

This pressure might have been alleviated had it not been for the cancellation of Montreal exhibition games, one with Jersey City at Jacksonville, another with Indianapolis at nearby Deland. The ball park in Jax is municipally operated and the Royals were told that there is a city law against "mixed competition," which is Jacksonvillese for inter-racial sports.

Deland resorted to subterfuge to get the cancellation, claiming repairs on the lights necessitated tearing up underground cables. Mel Jones, general manager of the Royals, suggested that the cables didn't run through the infield and that, anyway, the game would be over by 5 o'clock, leaving the rest of the afternoon and all the following day to repair the lights. He was brushed off, politely, but firmly. Fri. 3-29-46

"Until those cancellations came through, I thought Jackie and Wright were getting relaxed," explained another Montreal player to me. "They've hurt the boys and they've hurt the whole club. They've had the effect of setting them apart from us again."

Branch Rickey's "noble experiment of signing Negroes and erasing the baseball color line has worked better than its opponents believed, not as well as its sponsors hoped. Clay Hopper, Montreal manager, hails from Greenwood, Miss., the heart of the Bilbo belt, but has been eminently fair in his dealings with the players, moving Robbie from short to second to first, to ease the strain on his sore arm. In a similar case, a white rookie might have been benched, but Hopper apparently wants to give Robinson every chance.

—TOM MEANY

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Jackie Lines Out First Three Balls From Machine

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Team Shifts Training Grounds From Daytona Beach to Sanford

Sat 3-9-46

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

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Negro Ballplayers Welcomed

By BILL MARDO The Worker New York, N.Y.
The Worker Sports Editor Sun 3-10-46

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — It's much too early to form any conclusions as to whether Jackie Robinson and John Wright will make the regular Montreal lineup. But certain things are already clear after watching one week of the precedent-shattering tryouts of the two Negro stars for a place in organized baseball.

1. The hoary old lie used by Jimcrowers that the white players "wouldn't accept" Negro players on the teams has been forever blasted to oblivion, as every track, football, basketball and boxing follower knew it would be. The reception given Robinson and Wright by the other candidates for the Montreal team was a friendly, normal one. And be it known that a fair percentage of the players are Southerners.

2. Brooklyn Dodger bigwigs Branch Rickey, whatever else be said about him, is sincerely interested in the talents and possibilities of dozens more Negro stars. In informal chats with writers down here he amazed all by the thoroughness of his knowledge of the Negro leagues and individual players.

PITCHERS IN BIGGER DEMAND

3. Pitcher Wright may have a better chance of sticking with Montreal and looming as an early possibility for the Dodgers themselves than shortstop Robinson. It so happens that the Dodgers are the team in the big leagues most heavily stocked with ace shortstops, and Montreal being the number one farm team is therefore also well stocked in this spot. From the great Peewee Reese, whom Durocher wouldn't trade even for Slats Marion, down through Rojek, Basinski, Mauch, Corbitt, Brown and the Royal's Breardon, shortstop is uniquely teeming with talent while other teams are weeping.

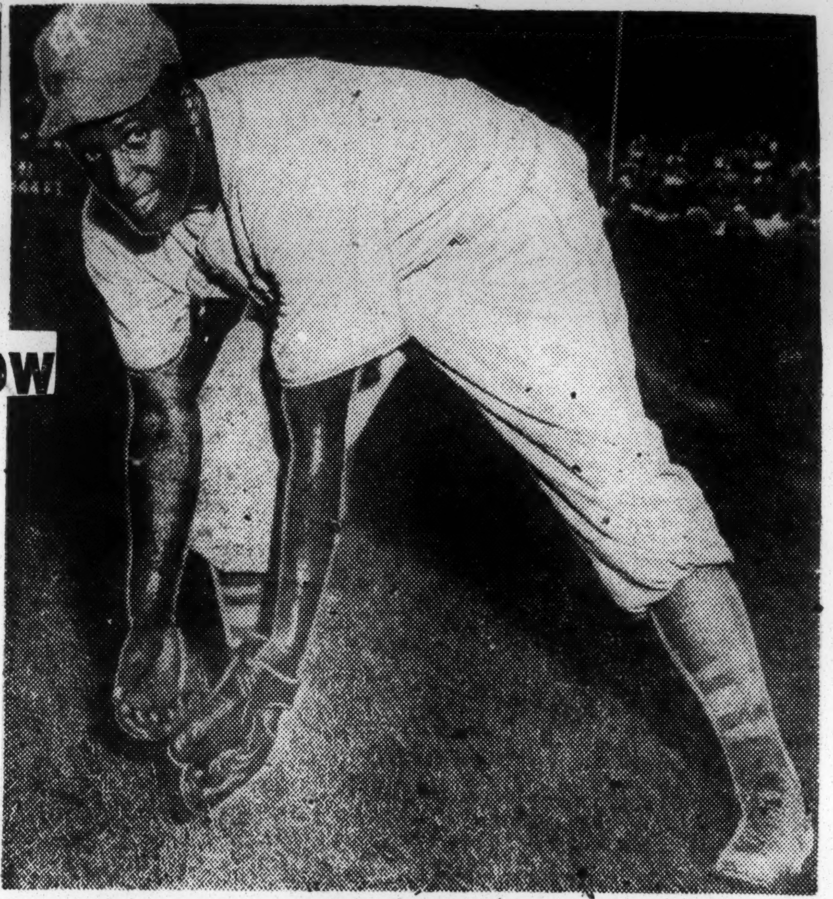
Robinson is right in there of course, with his full form yet to be shown. But informed opinion has the long, loose throwing curve baller, Wright, in a better strategic spot for immediate stardom.

Sun 3-10-46

HOTEL SITUATION

4. There is still a fight to be waged on breaking the Jimcrow hotel arrangements down South. No big issue was made this time on the housing of Robinson and Wright with the others, but, as Wright put it yesterday, "My main objective is to make the team. The hotel situation will take care of itself once I become an established member of the club. If that happens I don't expect to be Jimcrowed—particularly in the North."

The eyes of the whole baseball world are on the Montreal tryouts. Already, even in their brief warm-ups, **Robinson and Wright** have shown enough form to insure them a spot at least somewhere in the Dodger farm system. And that is the minimum. The gates of organized baseball have been cracked open, even though the crack isn't a big one yet. There isn't a big league manager today who hasn't got his finger on the name of a Negro star he would like to grab as soon as the rest of the shameful, un-American bars go down, and go they must soon.



JACKIE ROBINSON

Va. Negroes Answer Jimcrow

Daily Worker New York N.Y. Sat 4-20-46

RICHMOND, Va., April 19.—Seven out of eight Negroes who had patronized Mooers Field have declared they will not go to any more games there as the result of the Richmond club's refusal to let the Montreal team with its two Negro stars, play an exhibition there last week. This was the figure given in a survey by the Richmond Afro-American, a Negro paper.

The Richmond park was picketed by the Communist Party of Richmond, which bore banners saying "Ability Not Color — That's the American Way," "Strike Out the Color Bars from Our National Pastime." Leaflets were handed out and well received. Many white high school boys and girls stood in line good naturedly to get the leaflets some remarked after they saw them, "It just ain't right to stop them from playing because of their color."

Robinson, Wright Move to Daytona

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
By BILL MARDO Wed 3-6-46

SANFORD, Fla., March 5.—This was the last day at Sanford for the Montreal organization—most of the team having already left for the new headquarters at Daytona Beach. The International League's St. Paul entry has taken over here, and it was with this squad that Jackie Robinson and John John Wright practiced today. Both Negro stars and the remnants of the Montreal Club are pulling out tonight for the Daytona Camp.

Neither Wright or Robinson are being allowed to throw hard, and most of their present activities are of the loosening-up variety. Toward the tailend of this morning's session, however, Robinson worked out at second-base and shortstop with a makeshift St. Paul infield. The popular, well-set infielder handled all his chances with ease, and is carefully working himself into fine fettle. Wed 3-6-46

It was interesting to note the normal chatter that ran through the infield during the brief drill, with none of the St. Paul "Saints" appearing at all inhibited over the fact that a man with darker skin was covering the second base sack and shortstop also alternately. Robinson came in for his share of "ata-boys" and "that's the old hustle, kid"—just as did the other infielders.

WRIGHT'S WORKOUT

Wright's workout consisted mainly of some pepper-games, jogging around the park, and taking his turn at tossing one from the mound and then hustding over to nab sharp grounders which coach John Carey would hit to first base.

Sitting in front of the club house during lunchtime, both munching cool oranges, Wright and Robinson reiterated there are many Negro ball players around today who deserve the same chance as they to crack organized baseball.

"That team I toured Venezuela with," Robbie declared, "it has plenty of power. Lots of fellows on that Negro All-Stars club who I think are good enough for major-league baseball."

And the tall, wiry Wright chipping in: "Pitchers Leon Dayband Roy Wellmaker are ready to twirl in the big-leaguers right now." The quiet-spoken moundsmen paused for a moment, then added:

"You know, there was a Negro kid I played with on the Great Lakes Team. He was an infielder, name of Larry Doby. Believe he could make the majors. As a matter of fact, Mickey Cochrane paid him quite a compliment at the Naval base. Mickey said that if ever he saw a young infield prospect capable of making the grade, then Larry Doby was the guy."

Doby is only 21-years old and played for the Newark Eagles before entering the service.

HOTEL SITUATION

I asked the Negro right-hander how he felt about having to room away from the Montreal team. He answered slowly and sincedely:

"My main objective is to make the team. The hotel situation will take care of itself once I become an established member of the club. If that happens. I don't expect to be jimcrowed—particularly in the North." Wed 3-6-46

At this writing, the Montreal management haven't discussed their plans for Robinson and Wright concerning the hotel set-up. Everything is more or less in a state of normal flux, with Rickey and other officials waiting to see how the two Negro players make out.

There's no purpose in anticipating that the jimcrow situation that prevails here will be carried over to the North during the regular season. Certainly Rickey has gone on record as stating that he'll tolerate no prejudices on the part of any of his players—and the perfect way for Rickey to prove his point is to demonstrate it in action. Regardless of whether Robinson and Wright play for Montreal or any other Brooklyn farm team, they must be given non-segregated hotel and train accommodations.

As more Negroes break into organized baseball, I think the club owners must show enough guts to fight for the rights of their colored players while in the South. Spring training is a big business proposition down here. The hotels make a small fortune in housing an entire baseball organization, and it doesn't do the city its located in any harm either. Surely the baseball magnates could force the issue and demand non-jimcrow accommodations,—or bring their business elsewhere.

Threaten a businessman with loss of many thousand of dollars—and I'm sure he'll manage to feel a little less sensitive about the color of a person's skin.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 98

THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

The New York Press "Goes South"

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—It is extremely interesting to note that the only biased or "smutty" articles about Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright training here with the Montreal Royals, have been penned by the sports editors of New York City's most widely circulated newspapers. Last week the "astute" Jimmy Powers of the New York Daily News and the "reverent" Dan Parker of the New York Daily Mirror displayed their true colors by writing vicious, putrid and violently prejudiced stories on the fortunes of the two Negro players in the Montreal camp, and at the same time took some of their famed gripe punches at Branch Rickey, who apparently vexed them both by giving Negro players an opportunity in organized baseball.

While Powers and Parker of New York's twin tabloids are frothing because an effort is finally being made to Americanize "the great American game," writers on Southern papers, whom we might expect to be vindictive, have been eminently and conspicuously fair. They have not inferred or tried to create the impression that the Montreal camp is seething with friction and that Robinson and Wright are shedding tears because they came here to train. Unlike the snarling News and Mirror writers, the Southerners have unhesitatingly written about this historic sports innovation without corrupt or tainted motives in mind.

3-30-46

The reason we say that Powers and Parker are showing their true colors is because heretofore they both have tried to create the impression that they were sincere when demanding equality for all in the field of sports. That kind of "tripe" went well with Harlem's 400,000 readers. It sold papers and smacked of democratic, liberal thinking. The News and Mirror got a lot of circulation on Parker's "blarney" and Powers' "humbug." Sat.

Never Interviewed Jackie or Wright . . .

I DON'T KNOW where "Dashing Dan" got the idea that Robinson and Wright are "vaguely unhappy about the whole business." He certainly didn't get that idea from them. In fact, he hasn't even been around the Montreal training camp to get any ideas at all from them. I have been here ever since Wright and Robinson arrived. I have been with them every single day at the training camp, and if they're unhappy perhaps I don't know what the word means. As far as I can determine, and from what they have told me, both these Negro players are satisfied and as happy as any of the white players. They aren't running around showing their teeth like models advertising Colgate tooth paste, but they aren't hiring themselves out as professional mourners, either.

Here's another one from Emancipator Powers: "What we wish to see is how much money these 'liberals' are willing to sacrifice to back up their fancy speeches. You will usually find they are framing their pretty press releases primarily to make money out of the colored people and colored athletes."

Look who's talking about framing pretty press releases to make money out of colored people! It's "Joltin' Jimmy" Powers, boys and girls, callin' the kettle black. No sportswriter in the country has exploited his gullible Negro audience more than this man who is extremely happy over colored garbage collectors making $5.50 each and every day.

Parker shows his ignorance and, further, that he never even talked to Robinson or Wright, when he says: "When they finish their day's workout they go to the Negro boarding house where they are staying and the white boys go to their hotel." Truth of the matter is that Wright and Robinson are staying in the comfortable, imposing private homes of two of Daytona's most highly respected families, and not at a cluttered-up boarding house as Parker implies.

* * *

Show True Feelings "Down Home" . . .

THE CONTORTED writings of Jimmy Powers and Dan Parker, those "liberals" who've "Gone With the Dixie Wind," simply substantiate the claims of Negroes who have lived below the Mason-Dixon line for years. They say, and apparently they're right, that the Northern white man is worse than the lowest Cracker and really comes out of his hole when he gets down here. It is then that he shows his true colors and treats the Negro with the contempt and disdain that he would have liked to have dished out up home but lacked the fortitude and courage.

Amen, brother!

I give you Messrs. Powers and Parker! And I mean give!

AS JACK PLAYS

Colored Athletes Breaking Into New Fields Can Be Supported by Fans

By JOSEPH D. BIBB

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

JACKIE ROBINSON and Johnny Wright are now making history in the annals of sport. As these two sterling athletes engage in stern competition with white players in Organized Baseball, they will be in the focus of keen observation and critical scrutiny. Millions of colored Americans are breathlessly pulling for them to make good. Robinson and Wright are sternly aware of the expectations of their people and they also are cognizant of the stress and strain of the competition and the critical glare of the white people. Able sports commentators declared that both boys are "pressing" to make good.

Mr. Bibb

Wendell Smith, The Pittsburgh Courier's sports editor, and one of the better sports commentators, succinctly points out that the behavior and demeanor of the colored fans in the bleachers and in the grandstands will go a long way in determining the success of these two highly publicized ball players.

Sat.

SMITH wrote last week, "Never in history have two ball players had so many people pulling for them to make good. But at the same time, never have two ball players been so dependent upon the same fans that are pulling for them. For they can easily break or make Montreal's Robinson and Wright." The Courier expert then added in appealing words, "It all hinges on the item commonly known as PUBLIC CONDUCT." He means that if the emotions of the colored fans run riot with their common sense, and they indulge in inordinate screaming, raucous yelling, and they are tipsy and drunk and become disorderly, then the progress of the colored players will be dangerously jeopardized.

Baseball fans of color behaved with so much simple savagery and uncouthness at Wrigley and Comiskey fields in Chicago last summer, when the parks were rented to colored teams, that the owners have about decided to do away with the privilege. Over-enthusiastic customers of color repeatedly put on most disgusting and revloting exhibtions at these classy ball parks. They indulged in vile and offensive language. They littered up the premises with whiskey and beer bottles. They fought spirited and hideous battles among themselves, and they all but rang down the curtain upon their own ball players. If this is done when Jackie and Johnny play, say in Jersey City, in Buffalo, Baltimore or even in Canada, then Jackie and Johnny will be seriously handicapped. Their effectiveness will be impaired—because both of these boys are highly sensitive fellows, who have been severely tried already while training in the South. In short, the CONDUCT of the baseball fans of Robinson's and Wright's own race can make or break them.

4-27-46

COLORED athletes have heretofore been made the victims of rowdyism in many sports. The conduct of a professional football player of color was so off color that all colored players were barred. Now Kenny Washington and Strode have been admitted into organized football and again the test will be on. The fans, bubbling over with enthusiasm and effervesing with hopes and desires to cheer the sable shaded gladiators on, can help them immeasurably by going to sporting events with full knowledge and understanding that they can be the undoing of their heroes.

Sat.

Featured orchestras and bands were blacklisted in many spots because the colored worshippers stampeded and vandalized the theatres. They threw peanuts and popcorn all over the foyers, they tore up the tapestries and defiled the paintings and statues. They jitterbugged up and down the aisles. They made ludicrous spectacles of themselves. They fired the prejudices and passions of the whites, and succeeded in hindering the careers of their idols. We want no repetition of these disgraces in Organized Baseball.

4-27-46

THOSE who are pulling for their favroites, must restrain themselves and be good sports. They should not over-do their acts. Their emotions must be suppressed, and their impulses restrained, for the future of colored players in the national game is at stake.

Perhaps it would be well if we went to the other extreme and played down our cheers and plaudits for these boys. Too much applause is in bad taste, for if Jackie and Johnny make good they will be heralded by the white sporting fraternity, notwithstanding. Remember Joe Louis.

Robinson, Wright start training

The Los Angeles Tribune

Sat. 3-23-46

SANFORD, Fla.—Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright, first Negroes to wangle a contract from organized baseball, were cordially welcomed when they reported here at the Montreal Royals' training camp as Brooklyn Dodger fledglings, it was learned this week. They went right to work.

Shortstop Robinson was first to appear on the practice field; Wright showed a little later, but the two were kept busier by the battery of photographers than by practice for the first hours.

Wright has already had a foretaste of major league ballplaying. As a navyman last year, stationed at Floyd Bennett field, he pitched against and beat the Chicago White Sox, 9-6; pitched against and lost to the Brooklyn Dodgers, 6-4. Besides, he pitched against Chuck Dresden's all-star outfit in a post season game. Discharged from the Navy in early December, Wright has been pitching his curve ball three times weekly in the Venezuelan league.

He started training under Jack Pitler, manager of a Dodger farm team, who had him hustling to cover first base while the first-baseman was fielding grounders.

Robinson was in the charge of Paul Chervinke, former Dodger catcher, and made batting practice with several other players against an automatic pitching machine.

Sat 3-23-46

Both are staying with a prominent Negro family until the Royals move to Daytona Beach.

MONTREAL. — (ANP) — Any southern city that doesn't want Jackie Robinson and John Wright playing in their parks against local white teams can go fish, says the doughty Hector Racino, president of the Montreal Royals.

In telephonic instructions to Mel Jones, general manager, in Daytona, Fla., Racine told him to refuse any games in which the team's Negro players would be barred.

Already pre-season games in Jacksonville, Savannah and Richmond, have been cancelled because of protest against the appearance in the line-up of Robinson and Wright.

"It'll be all or nothing with the Montreal club," Racine said, "Jackie Robinson and John Wright go with the team or there's no game. And the rule holds up to the season opener."

Racine need have no fear that his club will lose money during the season if Robinson and Wright stick with the outfit. They are sure fire box office.

Robinson and Wright Prepping in Florida

Washington Tribune
Washington, D.C. Tues 3-12-46

(NNPA).—Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright, Brooklyn's two colored ball players, were cordially received when they reported last Monday for work for Branch Rickey and the Dodger farm system.

Robinson and Wright went about removing the kinks of a long winter. Robinson, a shortstop, was the first to appear on the practice field. Wright, a right-handed pitcher, appeared soon afterward. Before the two players tossed a ball, however, they were surrounded by a series of flashlight cameras and reporters for more than an hour.

They donned their uniforms at the home of D. B. Brock, a well-to-do Sanford colored man, and were driven to the ball park. They resided with Brock until the Montreal Royals, to whom they are assigned, moved to Daytona Beach.

Upon arriving at the field a number of players introduced themselves individually to Robinson and Wright. Robinson already knew one—Bob Daley, an outfielder with Montreal.

Robinson knew Daley at Pasadena Junior College. They played on the same team at Atascadero, a little town near St. Luis Obispo, three years ago.

Wright has already tasted major league competition. Last year, while in the Navy, he played on a team at Floyd Bennett Field which faced the White Sox and the Dodgers among others in exhibition games. Wright beat the Sox, 9 to 6, but lost to Brooklyn, 6 to 4.

He also pitched against Chuck Dressen's All-Star team at the end of last season and drew a round of verbal applause from Dressen on that occasion.

Wright, a curve-ball pitcher, has been playing three times a week in a Venezuelan league all winter. He was honorably discharged from the Navy last December.

Jack Pitler, manager of a Brooklyn farm, had charge of Wright in the day's sessions. Pitler had the lanky right-hander puffing as he tested him on covering first base on ground balls to the first baseman.

Robinson, meanwhile, was being tutored by Paul Chervinke, a former Brooklyn catcher. Robinson took batting practice along with a number of other players, with the automatic pitching machine on the mound.

Robinson, who is twenty-six and a former football star with U. C. L. A., appeared to be in fine condition. A lieutenant when he was discharged from the Army, he needs one more year in college to obtain a degree.

Negro in Baseball

Newark, N.J.? New York.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., Apr. 6.—There are two Negro candidates working out with the Montreal Royals in camp here, but you'd never know it from the newspapers. Jackie Robinson, the first Negro signed to a contract in organized ball, continues to be the spearhead, while John Wright, the second Negro, signed by Branch Rickey, remains an afterthought. When an exhibition game with the Royals is cancelled because some Florida city won't sanction mixed competition, it is Robbie who always is mentioned, rarely Wright. Sun 4-7-46

Commenting on the extravagant publicity Robinson has received and the comparatively little attention which has been bestowed on Wright, one of the New Yorkers wryly remarked: "Wright might as well be white."

It wasn't a disparaging remark, nor was it intended as one. The truth is that no small part of the pressure Robinson feels is the repeated interviewings to which he is subjected, which serve to set him apart from the other Royals, like Henry Ford's grandson in a public school. On the other hand, Wright goes about his chores like any other Montreal rookie.

According to Branch Rickey, it would work out better if the positions of Robinson and Wright were reversed. The Mahatma says John is the stolid, phlegmatic type, who wouldn't be upset by the extra-curricular activities, whereas Robinson is high-strung and sensitive.

How does Robinson feel about all this? About the publicity, about the strain of being the first Negro to break into organized ball? About playing in a State where the Jim Crow law is just that?

"It has been much better than I expected," declared Robinson. "Everybody, without exception, has been great. I can't tell you how much I appreciate the treatment I've received from the other fellows on the club."

Robinson, playing at Island Park against the Dodgers the other day, made his first hits against a major league club, lining one single to right and hitting another past the shortstop. He was at second base and fielded well. Second, incidentally, seems a position to which he is more suited. The long throw from short bothers him.

The success of Robinson against Brooklyn, even though it was against a lineup studded with second-stringers, drew rounds of cheers from the Negro stands. You got the impression that Robbie would have been just as well pleased if the fans of his own race hadn't singled him out for applause. As a matter of fact, the Negro stands were ready to cheer for any Montreal player. Montreal was Robbie's club and they were for that club, a natural enough reaction and one which didn't seem to arouse any resentment among white fans.

Robinson admitted that an agent from the Mexican League had approached him, but that he had no intention of jumping the contract he signed with the Brooklyn organization. "Mr. Rickey gave me a chance that people of my race had been seeking for a long time," said Jackie. "I couldn't walk out on him, no matter how much I was offered." Sun 4-7-46

In refusing the Mexicans, Robinson turned down a chance to take the easy way out. In Mexico Robbie would have none of the embarrassments which are bound to crop up from time to time, none of the segregation which he will face in organized ball. And he turned down a salary nearly three times as much as that for which he signed with Montreal. The Pasquel representative offered Robbie $6000 salary and free transportation to Mexico City for himself and his wife. He's probably getting about $2500 from the Royals.

Robinson can become quite a drawing card in the International League, provided he can make the grade. He is a flashy, eye-catching ball player, the type of crowd-pleasing fielder who always has a following. He looked better Tuesday than he had in any previous game, possibly because the sense of strangeness is wearing off.

—TOM MEANY

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Wright Hurls Five Innings; Robinson Hits

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.— Tall John Wright, the first Negro pitcher in modern organized baseball, made his mound debut here Monday and twirled nifty ball in limiting the Dodger Rookies to five hits and one run in the five and one-half innings he worked for the Montreal Royals. Wed 3-20-46

The wiry right-hander, though not bearing down yet, displayed a fine fast ball and an assortment of well-controlled hooks.

Jackie Robinson bashed out singles and a double and seems to be quickly adjusting himself to the brand of hurling here. The flashy-fielding Negro shortstop confessed to scribes that he was very tense at bat in his Sunday debut against the Dodger varsity at City Island Park. Robinson, who had gone hitless on that occasion, said that he had been "thinking of so many other things he didn't know just what he was doing" his first two times at bat.

But nobody here expects that abnormal pressure to handicap Jackie for long. He's too much of a natural athlete to be bottled up for long — the tremendous pressure that's on him, notwithstanding. A perfect example of this is the manner in which Robinson is learning to handle the second-base traffic, despite all his previous experience having been at shortstop.

Break Precedent

2 Negroes Begin Drills With Royals

Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

Sanford, Fla., March 4 (AP).—Baseball broke a precedent of long standing today when Shortstop Jackie Robinson and Pitcher John Wright, two Negro athletes, reported for spring training with the Montreal Royals, Brooklyn's farm club in the International League.

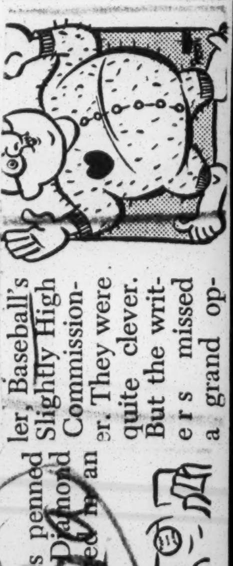
Before an uninterested gathering of seven spectators, Robinson and Wright went through the routine practice motions in a drill that failed to create as much excitement as a daily battle between the "Blues" and the "Greens" at Rickey University.

The two athletes reported to Bob Finch, assistant to President Branch Rickey, Robinson greeting Finch with a smile as he said, "Well, this is it." Tues 3-5-46

In the absence of Manager Clay Hopper, who was in Daytona Beach with a special squad to play the parent Dodgers in a practice game, Finch directed Robinson to take his turn with the other hitters facing the mechanical pitcher. He met some pitches squarely, but was so busy answering reporters and posing for photographers that he had little time for a real workout. Wright threw to the hitters for a short time, cutting loose with a good curve ball.

The Accent Is on $$$.

P.M.



Songs and witty stories penned for last night's Waldorf Diamond Writers' dinner were staged in an Old Kentucky Home setting, to rib Harry Chandler, Baseball's Slightly High Commissioner. They were quite clever. But the writers missed a grand opportunity to have the mansion's colored mammy pat her child on the head and sing "Honey, go play in yo' own backyard, etc."

2-4-46

I will not believe baseball is anything but a Jim Crow proposition until I see a regular major league player who is black. Only yesterday a smug baseball sportsman said, "Robinson and Wright couldn't make the Dodgers even if they were white. Not enough talent. We know that. Then we'll bury the idea for another 10 years." Is that unfair to print? Well, who was unfair first?

2-4-46

In this corner

Florida Papers 'Forgot' Negro Workouts

By Bill Mardo

EN ROUTE TO DAYTONA.—Having been unable to get any Gotham papers while stranded in Sanford, I don't know yet how the Big Press handled the historic first-day tryouts of Jackie Robinson and John Wright.

But nothing could have been any worse than the Florida "coverage." Not one scribe from this state had the simple decency to attend an event that must surely go down in the history books. Those Florida papers that didn't completely ignore the initial workouts, broke their hearts and carried a none-too-good Associated Press dispatch. The second paragraph of that AP epic read:

"Before an uninterested gathering of seven spectators, Robinson and Wright went through the routine practice motions in a drill that failed to create as much excitement as a daily battle between the 'blues' and 'greens' at Rickey university."

I suppose some people and some papers would need an atombomb bursting about their heads before admitting that this world of ours does move on.

* * *

From a sun-bather's point of view, my first visit to Florida must be considered a dismal flop. There wasn't a beach to be found in Sanford—and now they tell me this bus is taking the Montreal crew and myself to a neck of the woods so far from Daytona Beach proper, that the mail is delivered once a year, every autumn, when the birds drop it off on their way back to Capastrano.

They also tell me that capastrano is as tasty a dish as ravioli.

* * *

I'm very much afraid the garrulous mister Rickey has met his master in the Speech Department. Ironically enough, it's Branch Rickey, Jr. "Junior" is a squat hefty child of 35 or so . . . and I've yet to see him when he wasn't developing an argument in serial form.

The only way you can get him to stop is to say: "Can you guess my weight, mister Rickey?" And then there's sweet, beautiful silence while Junior silently runs his hands over your frame.

And he'll tell you how much you weigh, too, damn it.

* * *

Gene Hermanski, the talented Dodger outfielder, played against Johnny Wright when both were in the service, and Gene considers the Negro right-hander a "very fine pitcher."

* * *

A lazy soul like myself gets a lot of morbid pleasure out of watching the Montreal hopefuls go through their setting-up exercises every morning on the ball field.

First they stand perfectly rigid and twirl their outstretched arms around for about three minutes. Then it's down on the grass, fellas, and let's see how many times you can make like a bicycle. That's the stuff! Now try touching your toes with your teeth.

Of course, I like it better when a bunch of recent arrivals are doing the drill for the first time. Along about the 15th deep-knee bend, somebody will invariably groan aloud: "Oh-oh, I think I heard something break."

'Tis a wonderful life. Ah, to be young, ambitious and muscle-bound.

* * *

The hosses get more space than baseball on the sports pages down here. . . . And in case anybody's interested, Tweet's Boy won another at Hialeah.

* * *

When Jackie Robinson was being interviewed at the Sanford ball park, one of the New York writers asked whether a "live ball" was used in the Negro leagues. Jackie answered: "Nope, I guess you just saw Josh Gibson clout a few that day."

Jimcrow Will Strike Out

WITH a minimum of fanfare, two Negro baseball players, infielder Jackie Robinson and pitcher John Wright, have begun their tryouts for a place on the Montreal team of the International League, the Brooklyn Dodgers' top farm team.

This does not mean by a long shot that the fight to end discrimination in organized baseball has been completely won. But it is an important step in that direction.

Daily Worker readers will remember that when this paper launched the fight against Jimcrow in baseball, its interviews with big league ball players proved that the overwhelming majority of them would welcome their Negro fellow-athletes into America's national pastime.

American sports life in every major sport but baseball would be almost unthinkable without its wonderful galaxy of Negro stars. Negro and white have long been seen and cheered together on the gridiron, the track, the basketball court, in the ring, as in life itself, on the picket lines and in uniform overseas facing the common fascist enemy.

There is no reason for surprise in the welcome of the two Negro baseball players by their teammates, any more than there will be not too long from now when Negro players take their positions at the Stadium, the Polo Grounds and Ebbets Field.

Sanford, Florida: Where Jim-Crow Still Reigns

Bill Mardo

(NOTE—The complete Montreal squad, including Jackie Robinson and John Wright, moved from Sanford to Daytona Beach yesterday. Mardo will cover the Daytona scene beginning tomorrow. Here is a goodbye look at Sanford, the city where the first Negro players stepped out onto a diamond in organized baseball.)

SANFORD, Fla., March 6.—Resort city. Town of a million palm trees. Sanford, clean as a whistle . . . and all of Sanford is little more than a whistle-stop on the big Florida map.

But they got the sunshine here same as in Miami. They got the climate. They got the long, clean streets with lots of open spaces and lots of trees. Pretty palm trees.

And Sanford's got the Smell. The Smell of the South, the silent, lazy and ominous smell of a million lynchings that weren't good enough for the pretty palms.

Strange Fruit Hangin' on the Poplar Trees. . . .

They got a hotel here in Sanford. Big, lavish-looking hotel. Spanish style. The wide, curving arches and the brown stucco. Hacienda style.

They got a ball team at The Hotel. Lots of young, peppy kids from every big city and every little burg in America. They're all here. Those who can really play baseball and those who can't and those who are only fair—the fair ones, they'll never get any further than double-A ball. But they're at The Hotel. That's the luxury of Spring Training.

Couple of Negro fellas trying out for this team. Truth is they're both better than the many baseball prospects living at The Hotel. But those two Negro players, they ain't staying at The Hotel.

This is the South. This is Florida. This is where Jimcrow reigns king.

Different part of town is where the Negroes live. You walk a little bit away from the wide clean streets with the pretty palms. Walk just a little ways off the Private Path. And it's a warm noon-day in the South. It's nice and mild and the sun shines just as sweet here as it does back where The Hotel is. But here's where the Negroes live. Here's where every street is a shanty-town. Here's where you walk by and the Negroes look up at you quickly and then away again. Here's where they live and die.

Wooden frame houses with ripped porches. Wash hanging on the line.

And you walk on. This is the South. This is a different end of Resort City. This is where the Negroes live and die. Some sooner than others.

Soon you reverse your tracks and cut back again toward The Hotel. And a small, dirty dog starts following your out of Shanty-town. He might have been a white dog once—but now he's a dirty grey. His ribs stick out like broken slats on that paneless window you saw back Shanty-town. His back is caved in at the middle, and it makes him look like a canine caricature of those funny farm horses.

And the mutt trails at your heels as you stroll back into the cool clean streets with the pretty palms and the clipped lawns and the big park that stretches along the lake in back of The Hotel.

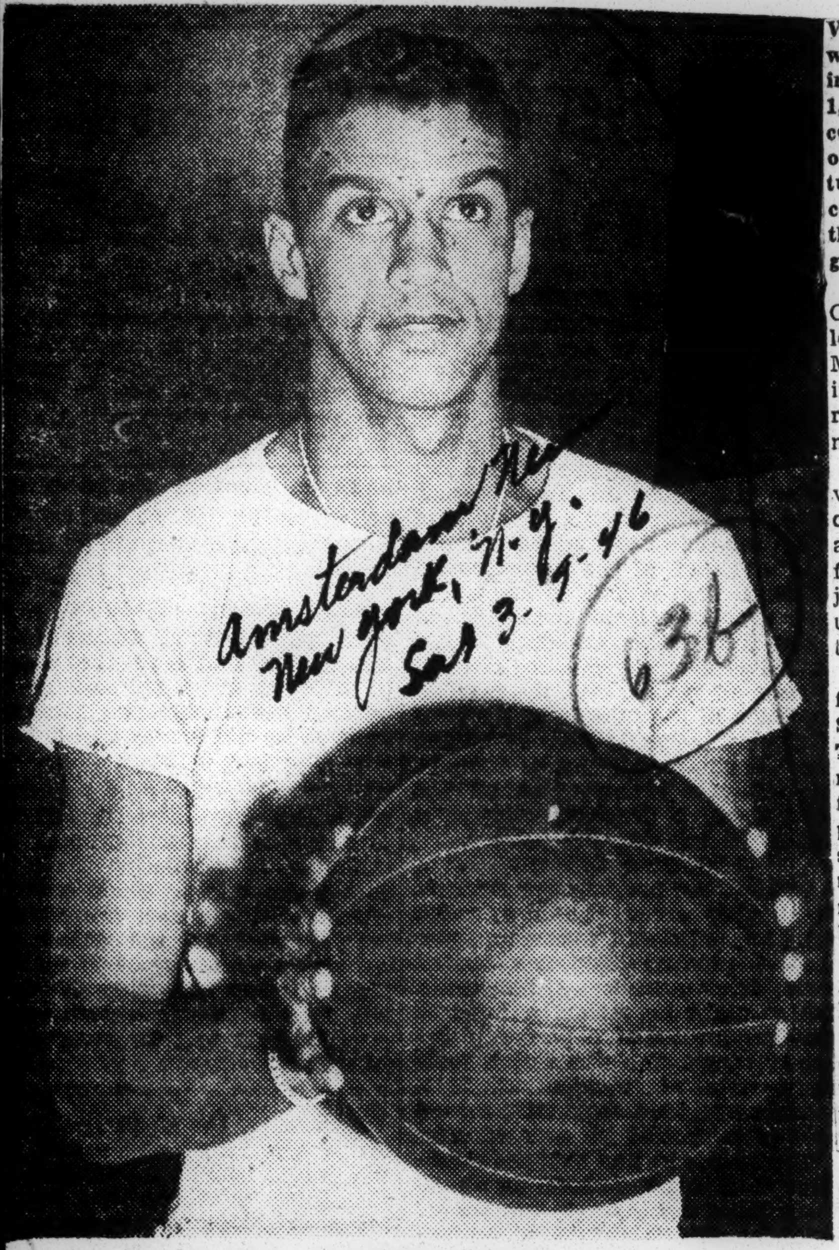
The grey dog that once was white now decides to tear ahead of you. He dashes onto the park green. Then back to the pavement. Now he's sniffing. He appears uncomfortable, cautious and puzzled by the clean grounds. Afraid to go too far. And you start walking up the driveway toward The Hotel stoop. The dog is still at your heels, although his gait has slackened. He's scared. The folks on The Hotel porch look surprised at the strange-looking mutt with the different color and the washboard ribs and the caved-in back.

And you go up the steps onto the wide porch with the sun-chairs and the sun-bathers. And you sense that the dog isn't with you any more. You look around and there he goes, scampering back along the road to Shanty-town.

This here hotel is for white dogs. Dogs with pedigrees and glossy coats and full bellies.

This here hotel is for white folks.

This here hotel is open to baseball club owners and their players. All their players but two. This hotel is The South.



Amsterdam News New York, N.Y. Sat 3-9-46 *63b*

MADE CAPTAIN AT PRINCETON: **Arthur J. Wilson Jr., first Negro to play basketball at Princeton University, and the first of his race to captain a Princeton athletic team.**

S. I. A. Conference Meets At Xavier Univ.

The Informer Houston Texas

NEW ORLEANS, La.—At the annual meeting of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic conference, held on the campus of Xavier university here, Friday and Saturday, consideration was given to the matter of restoring baseball to the Conference calendar of sports. Tuskegee Institute, State Teachers college, Montgomery; Morehouse college, Morris Brown college, Clark college, Atlanta and Florida A. and M. college, Tallahassee, indicated that they would be willing to field baseball teams in the Spring of 1946, if playing fields can be provided and equipment becomes available. It was the opinion of the conference, inasmuch as opportunities are arising for wider participation of young men possessing talent in this sport and that they should be encouraged to make baseball a career. *Sat. 1-5-46*

Cleve L. Abbott, chairman, Tuskegee Institute; C. Johnson Dunn, State Teachers college, Montgomery, and A. J. Lockhart, Morris Brown college, Atlanta, were named a committee to look into the matter and to report at the annual spring meeting of the conference, to be held at Tuskegee Institute on March 2.

Basketball schedules for the current season and football schedules for the season of 1946 were arranged. The conference decided that beginning next year the basketball schedules would be arranged at the fall meeting and that the conference playing season for basketball would begin early in December.

The conference heard reports from Commissioner B. T Harvey on the Vulcan Bowl football game, which will be played at Rickwood Field in Birmingham, Alabama, January 1, 1946, between Tennessee State college, Nashville, and Texas college of Tyler, and voted that in the future the championship team of the conference be required to represent the conference in the Vulcan Bowl game.

South Carolina State college, Orangeburg; Fort Valley State college, Fort Valley, Georgia, and LeMoyne college, Memphis, Tennessee, inactive for the past three years, returned to active and participating membership.

Henderson A. Johnson of Fisk university conducted the basketball clinic. He explained the new rules and staged several demonstrations for explanatory purposes. The object of the clinic was to reach an understanding regarding interpretations of the rules. *Sat 1-5-46*

The restriction on a dischargee from the armed forces passed at the September meeting was removed. The conference passed a resolution making it possible for a dischargee from the armed forces to participate in intercollegiate without being subject to the one-year residence rule, provided the ex-serviceman is not a transfer student from a member Conference institution.

Announcement was made that the Annual Southern Conference Basketball tournament would be held in Logan Hall at Tuskegee Institute on February 28 and March 1 and 2; that the Tuskegee Relay Carnival will be held on May 11, the Golf Tournament on May 10 and 11, the Tennis Tournament on May 10 and 11, and the Women's Championship Sports Day on May 10.

The conference members were not prepared for the announcement that Xavier university would not field a football team in 1946 as all colleges with previous scheduled games with the nationally known Gold Rush team would return to intercollegiate competition in football after the war. The announcement by the athletic authorities at Xavier that they would not play football next year made it impossible for many of the conference schools to round out their football schedules. This will be the second consecutive year that Xavier has not participated in football.

Application for membership in the conference was received from an institution in South Carolina and from a college in Mississippi, but it was felt that inasmuch as there are now fourteen institutions in the conference at this time its membership should not be increased.

B. T. Harvey of Morehouse college was asked to continue as commissioner. He is serving in the place of Dean J. B. Bragg who continues ill at his home at the Florida A. and M. college in Tallahassee.

Negro Elected As Princeton Cage Captain

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y. Sat 3-9-46

PRINCETON, N. J. (Special)—Arthur J. Wilson Jr., of Chicago, Naval ROTC student and outstanding basketball player, has been elected honorary captain of Princeton University's 1945-46 varsity basketball team, it was announced by Coach Wesley E. Fesler.

Alternating between forward and guard, the 22-year-old Negro, who served 14 months in the Admiralty Islands with the Seebees, was the only member of the Tiger squad to see action in all of its 19 scheduled contests. With 137 points, including 50 field goals, he stood second among Princeton's scorers for the season.

As a member of the naval training unit Wilson came to Princeton last July following his return from the Pacific. Before entering the Navy, Wilson attended Southern University at Baton Rouge, La., and Du Sable High School in Chicago. At Princeton he is carrying a five-course schedule, maintaining a third-group average in his studies.

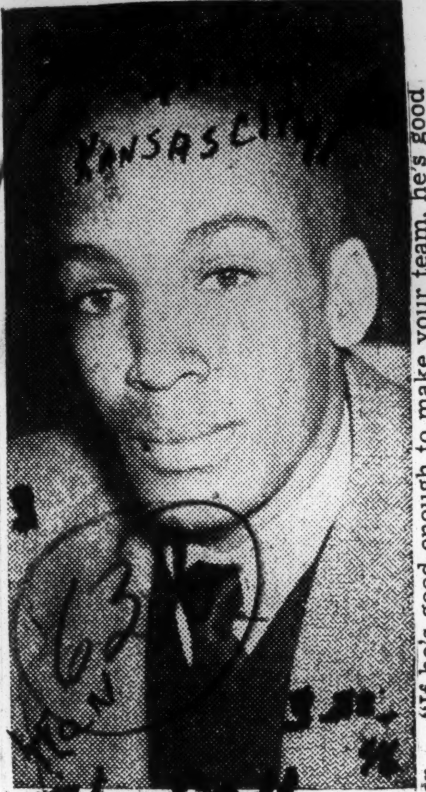
In explanation of the term, "honorary captain," Princeton athletic teams during the war years, because of the complete absence of returning lettermen, have been playing under the leadership of game captains, appointed for particular contests by the team coach. Then, upon completion of the team's schedule, letter-winners elect the man who will be listed in Princeton's archives as their aggregation's captain. It is a distinct honor and in Wilson's case, represents recognition of a season of outstanding performances.

PRINCETON NEGRO CAPTAIN

The Call Fri 3-1-46

PRINCETON, N. J.—(NNPA)—Arthur J. Wilson Jr. of Chicago has been elected honorary captain of Princeton's 1945-46 basketball team, announced Coach Wesley E. Fesler last Tuesday.

Wilson, an outstanding cager, is a naval ROTC student at Princeton. He was the only member of the Princeton quintet to see action in all of its 19 scheduled games. He is 22 years old and has served 14 months in the Pacific with the Seabees.



Kansas City ... The Call

BENCHED".— Rosamond Wilson, 19, only Negro basketball player on the team from Morningside college, Sioux City, Iowa, who was brought to Kansas City by his coach to play in the National Intercollegiate Basketball tournament, but who was not permitted to play with his team because all Negroes are barred from participation in the Intercollegiate tourney.

Cracks Pro Hoop Jimcro

Daily Worker New York N.Y. Fri. 7-26-46

Bob Daugherty, former high-scoring hoop star for Virginia Union University, yesterday signed with the Buffalo Legion Club of the National Professional Basketball League and became the first Negro player to crack that 12-team circuit.

Before entering the army Daugherty has scored 1,078 points in four years of college ball.

A Basketball Team Without Sportsmanship

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. Wed. 12-25-46

COACH JOHN MAUER and the University of Tennessee basketball team have done a rotten thing to sports. In walking out of a game with Duquesne because of the presence of a Negro freshman star they have denied one of the basic tenets of sportsmanship. It is especially shocking since the first thing every child should learn in sandlot days is that sports competition puts wealth and social position and race and creed aside.

It appears that Coach MAUER has forgotten this and that his skill is in the machanics of the game alone. His view strips from sports every commendable quality and leaves it a mere spectacle—like a circus or a bull fight. Although the spectacular qualities of the major sports are important enough, they are acquired appurtenances rather than the basic license of the game. Indeed there is grave danger that in overemphasis on the spectacle we may lose sight of the moral values which make sports decent.

But the Tennessee position does not prevail everywhere. It is in sorry contrast, for example, to the fine remark of Coach ELLIS JOHNSON of Morehead when his team faced Duquesne here last week. The same Negro star, CHARLES COOPER, was in the lineup then. Duquesne officials asked Coach JOHNSON if he objected to COOPER's playing.

"If he's good enough to make your team, he's good enough to play against us," replied Coach JOHNSON.

And it so happened that COOPER was the man whose last-minute goal beat Morehead.

That is sportsmanship.

Honor Yale's First Negro Varsity Basketball Player

This photo of Jay Swift was taken at a recent dinner of the New Haven Gridiron Club at which Yale University's championship basketball team was honored. Left to right, Fred Driscoll, team trainer; Ted Loeffler, a guard; and Jay Swift, also a guard.

Jay Swift Plays Piano; Well Liked Among Elis

New Amsterdam News

New Yorker Played in Every Game And Was Important Defensive Cog

Sat.
New York Amsterdam News

Yale University's first Negro athletic letterman is a piano player. Although he was not a regular on the Old Eli's unofficial New England championship basketball squad this past winter, Jay Swift, a New Yorker, by the way, was a very important member of the outfit and played a vital part in the past two seasons in enabling Yale to record 28 victories on the hardwoods against five defeats by a cumulative total of only eight points.

A guard, Swift played in every game and was used as a play maker and because of his defensive ability, proved a potent cog in Coach Red Rolfe's machine. Swift wasn't what is known today as a good shot, but his other assets more than offset his shortcoming.

Yale's most singular record of 14 victories and a single defeat this past winter was a result of its defensive strength and in it Jay Swift was most certainly a prime factor.

3-16-46 Sat.

A civilian student in his junior year at the New Haven, Conn., institution, Swift is enrolled for a pre-medical course.

A good student quite popular, and a fairly good pianist, Swift teams up with Tony Lavelli, the Yale center who averaged better than 21 points a game this year and looks like the greatest court performer since Hank Luisetti, in a piano-accordion duet that gets a good hand wherever heard.

After the 1944-45 basketball season, Jay was awarded a major Y in basketball which is his only sport.—Dan Burley. 3-16-46

Welsh hadn't decided whether he would elect to form a team and accept the associate membership thus being able to fill in dates with league clubs or to play as independent club and grab whatever players he could get. He was warned that if he molested any player under contract or who was still the property of a league club that no league team would be allowed to play Welsh's team. The club owners reminded Welch that there was a rule that any player or players not reporting to their clubs by May 1 faced a five-year suspension.

The application of Gus Greenlee, owner of a club in the United States League and President John Shackleford was turned down because neither of them could guarantee that they had the use of Briggs Stadium in Detroit and the other park mentioned was too far out and not finished.

A mutual agreement between the Negro American and the Negro Southern league respecting players contracts and territorial rights was approved.

Will Fine Players

President Martin advised the six club owners and the three managers present that he intends to slap heavy fines on any ball player who puts his hands on or strikes an umpire. To the umpires he passed out typewritten instructions which also made the manager responsible for his club both on the field and off the field. Sat 3-16-46

Owners present were J. B. Martin, Syd Pollock, Indianapolis-Cincin-Chicago American Giants; Tom Baird, Kansas City Monarchs; Dr. B. B. Martin, Memphis Red Sox: nati Clowns, Ernie Wright, Cleveland Buckeyes, and Tom Hayes, Jr., Birmingham Black Barons.

Business managers were Wilbur Hayes, Cleveland Buckeyes, and R. S. Simmons, Chicago American Giants. Club managers were Tommy Sampson, Birmingham Black Barons; Jim Taylor, Chicago American Giants, and Jelly Taylor, Memphis Red Sox.

Visitors included Tom Wilson, president of the Negro National League; Dr. R. B. Jackson, presidetn of the Negro Southern League; Rudolph Krob, Muskegon Heights, Mich.; Jess Elster, Grand Rapids, Mich.; C. E. R. Bigelow, Grand Rapids; James Troupe, St. Louis; Terry Shannon, Cleveland, O., and others.

Jay Swift, first Negro to win a varsity letter at Yale University. A basketball player, Swift was a potent factor in Yale winning the Ivy League championship this season.

63b 1946

Holman, Lapchick to Act Against Anti-Semitic Wyoming U. Coach

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Mon. 12-30-46

By Lester Rodney

New York City's basketball coaches reacted swiftly yesterday to the disgraceful anti-Semitic, anti-Negro exhibition put on in the Garden by the Wyoming University coach Saturday night, and a boycott of the foul-mouthed Everett Shelton began to take shape.

Nat Holman, whose unbeaten CCNY team whipped Wyoming 57-48 in a near riotous game, said flatly that City would never play against a Shelton coached team again.

Joe Lapchick, coach of St. John's of Brooklyn, added that he would move for action against Shelton by the National Coaches Association.

The big blowoff came near the end of the CCNY-Wyoming game, which was the first of a doubleheader before a capacity Garden crowd. It had been a close, furiously played game, with City ahead at the half 32-30 and the score tied 43-43 with seven minutes to go. At this point the City players, who had maintained a relentless, sizzling pace throughout, began to break away from the tiring Westerners for the winning points.

Holman suddenly got up from his seat on the City bench, walked quickly over to the Wyoming bench and shook his folded program vigorously under Shelton's nose. Nobody except those in the immediate vicinity of the players' benches knew what was going on but Holman and CCNY players later revealed that Shelton had shouted "Those damn Jews get away with anything in New York" and had also slurred Joe Galiber, Negro player on the City team.

When Holman shook the program under Shelton's nose he said "I'll punch you right in the nose if you say anything like that about my players again." He returned to his seat on the bench as the CCNY squad applauded him vigorously. Shelton made no more remarks from the bench, but the trim 50-year-old Holman, once renowned as the world's greatest basketball player while a member of the immortal Original Celtics, was still boiling with rage. He got up again, went back to Shelton, and emphasized his previous point with a doubled up fist close to the Wyoming coaches' face. Though he bravely popped off again in his dressing room after the game when Holman wasn't around, Shelton sat stock still under Holman's threat.

City Pours It On

With the Garden in an uproar and the City squad shouting encouragement to their five mates on the floor, the CCNY team put on a dazzling exhibition of passwork and shooting in the final moments to open up a ten point lead. Galiber, who scored 15 points and played brilliantly throughout, brought the house down with a final spectacular layup shot as he drove under the basket and was pushed as he shot. He calmly made the foul good.

With a minute to go and the game on ice Holman made the gesture supreme. He pulled the entire team off the floor and sent five eager substitutes in to finish up. As the players came off, Holman rose and shook hands heartily with each one.

The City substitutes put on a display of burningly fast pinwheel passwork, and as two of the confused Wyoming players picked each other off a City man broke free with the ball under the basket only to disdainfully refuse the shot and pass out again to his teammates.

With seconds left there was a brief scuffle for the ball between Izzy Dubow of CCNY and Ken Rogers of Wyoming and the high tension nearly erupted in a free for all fist fight as both benches emptied. Cool headed and burly Matty Begovich, referee, kept the principals apart and the game ended without the usual mutual shaking of hands between coaches and players.

Players Took Cue From Coach

Begovich, a Catholic and former star performer for the St. Johns Wonder team which included several Jewish stars, later said that some of the Wyoming players had taken a cue from their coach on the floor. City players agreed that Wyoming center Mike Todorovich took no part in echoing the unsportsmanlike coach and appeared very unhappy about the whole thing. Todorovich, a 6-6 lad from Indiana, was pretty nearly the whole Wyoming offense with his 24 points and feeding from the pivot, though little Jimmy Reese, the only other Wyoming player to score more than one field goal, played brilliantly in spurts.

Mon. 12-30-46

Holman was still sizzling long after the game as he watched a fine Utah team down St. Johns 62-48 in the finale. He termed Shelton's conduct the most disgraceful exhibition of poor sportsmanship ever seen in Madison Square Garden.

Lapchick, St. John's coach, former star center of the Celtics and a lifelong friend of Holman, was equally incensed. The normally soft spoken 6 foot 7 mentor, a Catholic, was instrumental in having Akron University barred from the Garden several years ago after anti-Semitic insults were flung at Hy Gotkin, St. Johns player.

Writers Meet Today

The Metropolitan Basketball Writers Association, composed of court scribes of all the New York papers, will probably take up the Wyoming matter in today's meeting. New York basketball has a long democratic tradition and has never tolerated un-American discrimination from any source. Typical of the spirit of local basketball were the elections of team captains in 1940, when Angelo Monitto, an Italian, was elected captain of CCNY by an otherwise all Jewish squad; Jack Garfinkel, a Jew, was elected captain of St. Johns by an otherwise all Catholic St. Johns squad, and Bill King, a Negro, was elected captain of Long Island University by an otherwise all white squad.

City College is the only undefeated New York team to date this season, having won eight straight, including Garden victories over Idaho, Montana State, Westminster, Bowling Green and Wyoming. Its next game is against a highly regarded Oklahoma University team Wednesday night.

Morehouse Takes Southern Conference Cage Tourney

D. Gender [illegible]

By CAPT. R. S. DARNABY

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Displaying superb teamwork and splendid coordination, the Morehouse College Maroon Tigers turned back the brilliant and battling Tuskegee Institute Golden quintet, 40 to 39, in the final of the 13th annual Southern Conference Basketball Tournament played here Saturday night, March 2, before an overflow crowd in Logan Hall gymnasium, Tuskegee Institute. Sat. 3-9-46

This makes the second time that the Maroon Tigers have won the event, having copped the fourth annual tournament in 1937.

To reach the finals, Morehouse, seeded No. 2, took Knoxville, 49 to 37, and Alabama State, 48 to 38, in stride while the unseeded Tuskegee team upset the Clark College Panthers, seeded No. 1, 50 to 32, and the Florida A. and M. College Rattlers, 47 to 44. Chicago

Led by Jerome Harris, Morehouse broke through the Tuskegee defense with well-timed field goals to lead at half-time, 24 to 16.

Midway the last half, William Roseborough, lanky center, and William Bether, ace of the Tuskegee quintet, put on a scoring spurt to move within a single point of the Maroon Tigers when the timer's gun ended the gruelling contest. Illinois

TUSKEGEE conquered the Clark College Panthers, top seeded team, and then went on to defeat the Rattlers of the Florida A. and M. College, 47 to 44, in a hard-fought battle.

In the high scoring game, Florida led the list with their 68 to 44 win over Southern Carolina State. In the consolation tilt, the Florida A. and M. College Rattlers came from behind to turn back the Alabama State Teachers' College Hornets, 49 to 48.

The Rattlers were trailing at the end of the first half, 30 to 20, but found themselves in the second half to tie up the score, 30 to 30, 36 to 36, and 40 to 40.

With six minutes left to play, Florida led, 41 to 40, but Alabama reversed the order to move out in front, 44 to 41. In the closing moments of the contest, the Rattlers went into the lead again to put the game in the book.

Mrs. Amelia C. Roberts of the department of physical education was praised for the aesthetic dance numbers by her girls which were featured during the recess periods. Mrs. Roberts had splendid cooperation and assistance from Miss Roumania Peters, Miss Ray Wesley, a senior, and Miss Margaret Lipscomb, a junior.

Sat. 3-9-46

DR. F. D. PATTERSON, president of Tuskegee Institute, presented the gold balls and trophies to the captains of the winning teams.

The following players were selected for the all-tournament team: Oliver Irvin, Florida; Charles Spears, Alabama State; Willie Sharpe, Alabama State; Jerome Harris, Morehouse, and William Roseborough, Tuskegee, who were placed on the first team. Reginald Hayne, Clark; Raymond Williams, Clark; Nathaniel Powell, Florida; George Baldwin, Morehouse, and Clarence Davis, Tuskegee, were named for the second team.

The officials were B. T. Havey (Colgate), G. H. Lennon (Bluefield State), and Willie P. Frazier (Alabama A. and I.). Timers: John H. Brown (Virginia Union), and Arthur Sawyer (Tuskegee).

Negro Fives To Open Wednesday

The Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

By EDWARD Q. ADAMS

Courier-Journal Correspondent

Sun. 12-15-46 [illegible]

The Negro college and high school cage seasons will get under way this week as both the Louisville Municipal College Bantams and the Central High School Yellow-Jackets take to the court against tough opponents.

The two teams will open their season with a double-bill at Male High Gym on Wednesday night. The L.M.C. Bantams tangle with the Tuskegee Tigers of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. The Bantams have been working out for sometime in preparation for this game and appear to be ready for the Alabama team, which is on a pre-holiday road trip.

Coach E. H. Adams of Tuskegee will have on his squad a Central player of last season, Clarence Bell, who is playing second string guard. While the L.M.C. Bantams will have several former Central players in Charles "June" Brown, "Billie" Rhodes, and Arthur "Chirp" Adams. However, Coach Dwight Reed has several top-notch cage performers in C. Tabor, W. Pressley, and J. Cotten, who are rated as better on the court than on the gridiron.

In the opening game on the card the Central Yellow-Jackets of Coach W. L. Kean will meet a district rival in Lincoln Institute. The Central coach is busying himself trying to find an opening combination since the football season only recently ended to release gridders for basketball work.

From the last year's team the Yellow-Jackets are counting on their All-State Center E. Herndon and Phil Hines, Thomas Cox, and Bob Walker. The addition of some promising junior high boys should aid the coach in his efforts.

The Lincoln team has most of its last season's team back.

The opening game will start at 7.

Meet Frank Forbes, Busiest Member Of New York's Boxing Triumvirate

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 12-28-46

(63)

He Judges Fights But Isn't Averse to Doing a Little Bit on His Own If the Need Arises

By JOHN ROBINSON

NEW YORK—Few of the nation's boxing fans know that the State of New York has three men who figure prominently in things fistic hereabouts.

These include a member of the N.Y. State Athletic Commission, a judge and a referee.

Best known, perhaps, but only because he frequently is photographed in connection with fights of national interest,

FRANK FORBES

is the commissioner, Dr. C. B. Powell, publisher, insurance executive and X-ray specialist.

Youngest member of the trio is the referee, James (Jimmy) Freeman, already an accepted part of the Gotham boxing scene.

But they are to be dealt with at another time. Our concern in this piece is with the judge, Frank Forbes, a small item in the backdrop of the show but one of the hardest workers the fraternity knows.

By way of infomation, Forbes has served as a judge at Louis-Conn and Louis-Mauriello title fights as well as at other upper bracket brawls.

With 35 years of athletic background, Forbes has been an employee of the New York Boxing Commission since 1936, when he was the first non-white to be appointed official timekeeper.

He is baptism to athletic fame

He was a three-letter man at Southern Central in football, basketball and baseball, and for three years was All-City selection in all three sports.

He became All-American after entering Howard University where he starred in three sports in 1911, 12 and 13, and played halfback on the gridiron the three years the Howard University eleven was neither beaten nor scored upon.

He played the tihrd base on Howard's baseball team and was guard on the cage squad.

Played Pro Baseball

Frank entered professional baseball in 1914, joining the New York Lincoln Giants, world champions until the club disbanded in 1922.

Among some of his famous teammates were Cyclone Joe Williams, Cannonball Dick Redding, John Henry Lloyd, famous short stop; Louis Santop and Bill Wiley.

In 1923, he organized the Commonwealth Big Five, forerunner of the present famous Renaissance basketball club.

He came to the Negro National League as umpire in 1932, and withdrew the same year when he was appointed to the New York City Municipal League.

He also became affiliated with the New York Police Athletic League, and in 1933, was initiated into the boxing judge and referee staff.

He established a precedent in winning assignment as a boxing judge in Madison Square Garden less than a year after becoming a member of the judges' staff.

His first Madison Square Garden assignemnt came in February, 1944, when Tami Maurieillo met Joe Baksi.

At Pep-Wright Fray

His first championship fracas was the Willie Pep-Chalky Wright featherweight battle in August, 1944.

Other important affairs which he has officiated include: Rocky Graziano-Billy Arnold, Bobby Ruffin-Johnny Greco, Beau Jack-Bob Montgomery, Lee Oma-Joe Baksi, Oma-Mauriello (twice), and Ray Robinson-Jmmy Mc Daniels.

Frank, who judges an average of two fights a month, is reputed to be the only four-sports official of either race east of Chicago, and is the only non-white of a select group of seven in the United States.

A coolly efficient individual under normal conditions, he can become a veritable demon when stirred to action. Known throughout his athletic career as "The Strangler," Forbes nearly turned out the Garden one night a year ago.

One of the seconds in the hotly-contested, much-disputed Greco-Ruffin bout last winter, made the mistake of accusing Forbes of being partial. He tossed a mean look and smart remark toward the judge's ringside chair, threatened to "see him later."

Frank said nothing, but the moment his work was done, up jumped within him the fellow with the pitchfork and fiery red horns. Into the dressing room, he stormed, capsizing chairs and bouncing tables around as though they were match-sticks. But he had been beaten to the punch.

The second had been warned, and was nowhere to be found.

A welterweight pug at one time, Forbes judges fighters on their performance in the ring.

Race not Considered

"My judgement is the evaluation of a fighter's performance; his background and race origin have nothing to do with my decision," Forbes asserted as he went on to explain five points he employs in judgng.

The five pointers are:

1. Clean and effective punches.
punches. 2. Aggressiveness. 3. Defense. 4. Ring generalship — keeping opponent off position. If he is an inside fighter, keeping at a distance, and if he is a long range fighter, staying in close. 5. Sportsmanship.

Four technicalities in judging:

1. A close win; one point.
2. A decisive win: two points.
3. A knockdown: two points, automatically.
4. Even round: no point for either contestant.

This system, according to Forbes, was introduced by Col. E. F. Eagan, New York boxing commissioner. 12-28-46

Not Blows, but Effect

A fighter may land as many as four blows with little or no effect on his opponent, but if his opposition lands one solid blow with telling effect, the four blows may be nullified, he pointed out, and further explained that a judge does not record every blow.

Secrecy is maintained in selecting a judge for a match.

The judge some times is not assigned until a matter of hours before the event.

"Sure, fellows come around and cry on your shoulders and state the shortcomings or adversities of their fighting charges when they think you will officiate," was Forbes's answer to the question of whether a judge sometimes is requested to be partial.

The judges' score cards are issued at the ring before the fight and are collected at the end of a

Vols, Dukes Cancel Over Negro Player

The Courier-Journal

Cooper, Who Beat Morehead Here, Cause of Last-Minute 'Walkout'

Louisville, Ky. Tues. 12-24-46

McKeesport, Pa., Dec. 23 (AP)—A scheduled basketball game between Duquesne University and the University of Tennessee was called off at the last minute tonight when the Southern school refused to take the floor unless assured that Charles Cooper, Negro freshman star, would not play for Duquesne.

Cooper, whose last-minute goal beat the Morehead, Ky., Teachers 53-52 at the Jefferson County Armory Friday night, was the first Negro to play in a college game in Louisville against a white team. The afternoon of the game, Duquense officials asked permission from Morehead Coach Ellis Johnson to use Cooper, expressing a willingness to withhold him if there was any objection. Johnson raised none, saying: "If he's good enough to make your team, he's good enough to play against us."

Coach Chick Davies of Duquesne and Coach John W. Mauer of the Vols were in conference more than two hours before the game was cancelled.

Duquesne officials said Davis had agreed not to use Cooper "unless he had to, in a close game," but that this did not satisfy Mauer. More than 2,600 fans were already in the gym when the cancellation was announced.

JACKIE GREAT ON COURT

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Thurs. 11-21-46

Jackie Robinson, the remarkable all-round athlete who will become the first Negro to don a big league baseball suit next spring, is currently starring for the Los Angeles Red Devils in basketball. He scored 11 points in his first game and 12 in his second, playing a big part in his team's victories over the Sheboygan Stars.

One of his goals was the most sensational seen in the Olympic in years. From the floor, after tripping, Jackie hooked in a two-pointer from 15 feet out.

Robinson's teammates include such standouts as the great Mikan of De Paul, Hassett of Notre Dame, Otten of Bowling Green, Koltz of Wisconsin and Oran of USC.

At UCLA Jackie was All-Coast halfback in football, leading basketball scorer, sprint champ and shortstop act. He had no time for swimming.

How about inviting the Red Devils in to meet the local Knicks?

Jackie's Quint Topline Outfit

The Afro-American

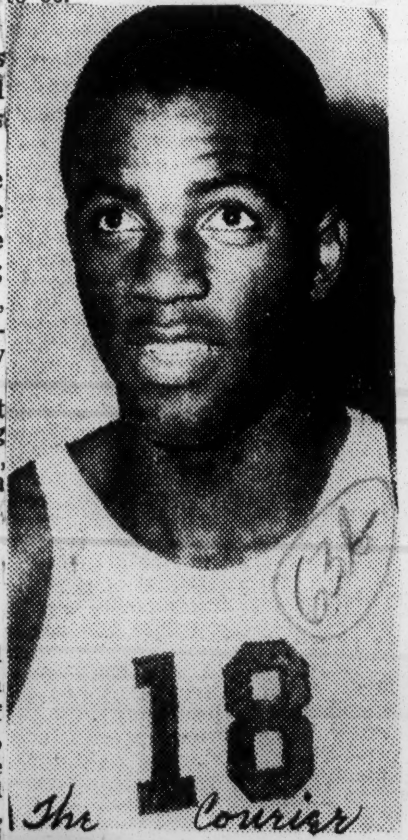
LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The Los Angeles Red Devils, pro basketball team starring Jackie Robinson, is tough.

Among the teams which have fallen before the Devils are the New York Renaissance, twice; the Sheboygan Redskins, white, twice; the Chicago American Gears, white, twice; the Chicago American Gears, white, and the Dow Chemical of Michigan, twice.

Also on the mixed local outfit are Ziggy Marcell, a ball-handling wizard from Southern University, and George Crow of Indiana, a 6 foot 4 inch center.

Globetrotters 'Blow' Their Top

The Harlem Globetrotters, world gallivanting cage squad, blew an eight point lead, with the help of Referee Nat Messinger, and lost to the Anderson, Ind., Packers in the preliminary of the College All Stars versus Fort Wayne, Ind., Zollners in the seventh annual Herald-American cage classic at the Chicago Stadium last Friday night. The Negro quintet lost, 52 to 56.



The Courier

CAGE STAR, TOO—After making a brilliant record at second baseman with the Montreal Royals of the International League, Jackie Robinson returned to his West Coast home and joined the crack Los Angeles Red Devils (professional) basketball team. Robinson and Ziggy Marcell are the only Negro players on the team. In his first game against the Sheybogan Redskins of the National Pro League, Robinson swished the nets for 18 points and led his team to victory. Sat. 11-23-46

Pro Ban Against 3 Cagers

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-30-46

American Basket League Won't Admit Colored

NEW YORK — Three players have been barred from the American Professional Basketball League, the AFRO learned late last week.

The trio, prohibited from playing with clubs in the loop because of their color, are William (Puggy) Bell and Eddie Younger, former New York Renaissance stars, and Claude (Claudie) Phillips, a sensation at City College of New York, in 1944 and '45.

Bell and Phillips were to have played with the Troy, N.Y., quint, coached by Dr. A. M. Winograd, white, physical education specialist at CCNY. The former had been signed for $5,000 for the season and the latter at $4,200.

Younger reputedly was to receive $4,500 for playing with the Paterson, N.J., club.

Baltimore Objects

According to Dr. Winograd, Troy officials were notified by President John O'Brien, white, that the ban against colored players was more or less due to "the strenuous objections raised by Baltimore."

The Baltimore Bullets are the Monumental City entry in the American League. Each year the Baltimore pro team plays either the Renaissance or Harlem Globetrotters or both.

Last Thursday night, the Bullets bowed to the Globetrotters, 48-46, before an overflow crowd in Baltimore.

Globetrotters play 3,000th game tonight

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.

DENVER, Colo. — The Harlem Globetrotters basketball team, now in its 22nd year, will play its 3000th game here tonight, against Ft. Lowry, as the feature attraction of the first professional show to be put on here. Sat. 12-21-46

The Kansas City Stars, farm team of the Globetrotters, under Jesse Owens, former Olympic track star, will play the House of David on the first half of the bill.

At the start of the season, the Trotters had won 2,732 games, lost 222, and tied one, during 22 years of barnstorming. Up till Dec. 9, they had won 31 games, lost two, since opening their 1946-47 season.

Record (since 1927)

1927-28	Won 101,	lost 6	
1928-29	Won 145,	lost 13	
1929-30	Won 151,	lost 13	
1930-31	Won 137,	lost 14	
1931-32	Won 145,	lost 11	
1932-33	Won 147,	lost 10	
1933-34	Won 152,	lost 2	
1934-35	Won 141,	lost 14	
1935-36	Won 153,	lost 9	
1936-37	Won 149,	lost 11	tied 1
1937-38	Won 145,	lost 12	
1938-39	Won 148,	lost 13	
1939-40	Won 159,	lost 8	
1940-41	Won 146,	lost 12	
1941-42	Won 135,	lost 18	
1942-43	Won 139,	lost 16	
1943-44	Won 141,	lost 13	
1944-45	Won 146,	lost 14	
1945-46	Won 152,	lost 13	

Bratton Again Beats Willie Joyce In 10

Defender Chicago, Ill.

63c

Sat. 12-28-46

Johnny Bratton, Illinois number one lightweight champion, moved another step nearer the world title and a match with either Bob Montgomery or Ike Williams, co-titleholders, on Friday night, Dec. 20, when he outboxed and outdanced Willie Joyce in a rematch of 10 rounds.

It was the last boxing show of the year in the Chicago Stadium. It was a good show promoted by Irving Shoenwald and Jack Begun who staged the weekly Monday night matches at the Marigold Gardens. A crowd of 8,137 paid a gross gate of $35,450.60. The decision was unanimous, Referee Walter Brightmore voting 56-44 for Bratton, Judge Frank McAdams and Judge Jack Ripple scoring Bratton, 54; Joyce, 46.

However, the crowd was decidedly pro-Joyce. They booed the decision and even booed Bratton as he left the ring. Joyce, on the other hand, received an ovation. Many in the press row believed Bratton aroused the fans' ire because of his peculiar style of boxing which the fans say is Johnny's grandstanding.

Others were not booing Bratton, it was later learned, but were after Howard Frazier, Bratton's manager, who demanded that Bratton be given a 5-minute rest period between the seventh and eighth round because Joyce deliberately fouled Bratton after the bell ended that stanza.

* * *

EVERYONE AGREED that Bratton, 19, was too fast and clever for Joyce, 28. Nine years made up the difference. Joyce is a ring veteran and Bratton must change his ways a good deal if he wants to be in there slugging nine years hence. That last sentence is a warning.

Bratton was a favorite in the betting. He is now in line for a world championship match with Ike Williams, National Boxing Association's champion, or Bob Montgomery, the New York and Pennsylvania Athletic Commission's titleholder. There is some talk of handing him a fight with Beau Jack. No matter what the promoters do, Johnny is number one challenger.

Winning his 21st scrap in 26 pro fights since turning pro after winning the Golden Gloves 1944 lightweight championship, Bratton left the ring with a slight cut on the forehead. He reinjured his right hand in the fourth. He was slowed up by the low blow after the bell in the seventh and by two low punches in the eighth.

* * *

BOB FOXWORTH soundly whipped Mack Parshay of Detroit in six rounds, the bout coming off after the main event. Bob hit the Michigan boy with everything but the water bucket but was foxy enough to respect Parshay's right which is plenty powerful.

Tod Tate tied Bill Peterson, white heavyweight, up, kept his left in Bill's face and outslugged him. Then he got a draw decision which wasn't at all pleasing to the crowd. The bout was a five-rounder.

Joe Dawson, white, easily beat Billy Sullivan, tall Negro heavyweight, in the four-round opener.

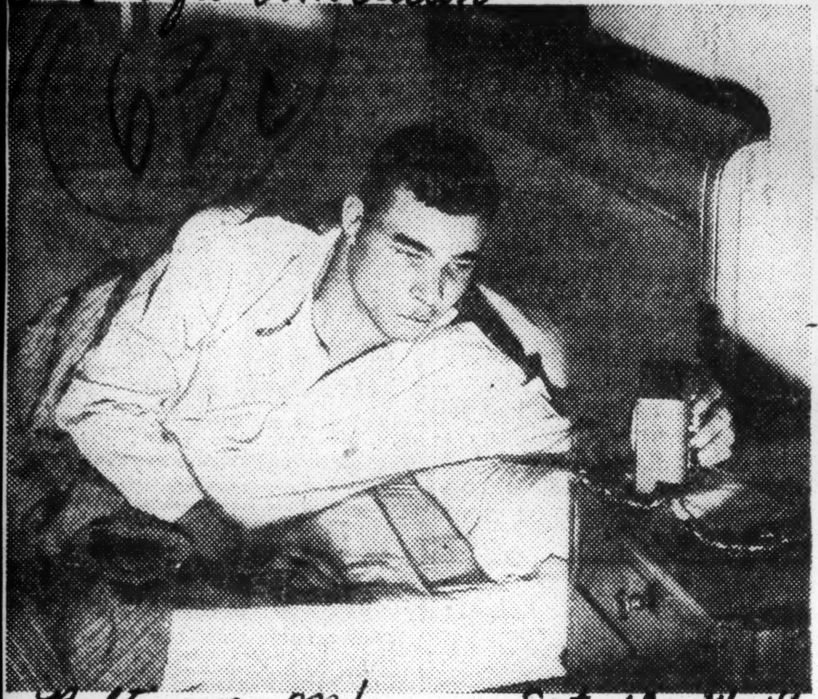
Pat Iacobucci, Cincinnati, decisioned Rueben Rivers, 130, Mexico City, in six. Leon Thompson, Evarts, Ky., beat Johnny O'Brien, Calumet City, in six.

63c 1946 Billy Fox

Coming Champ?

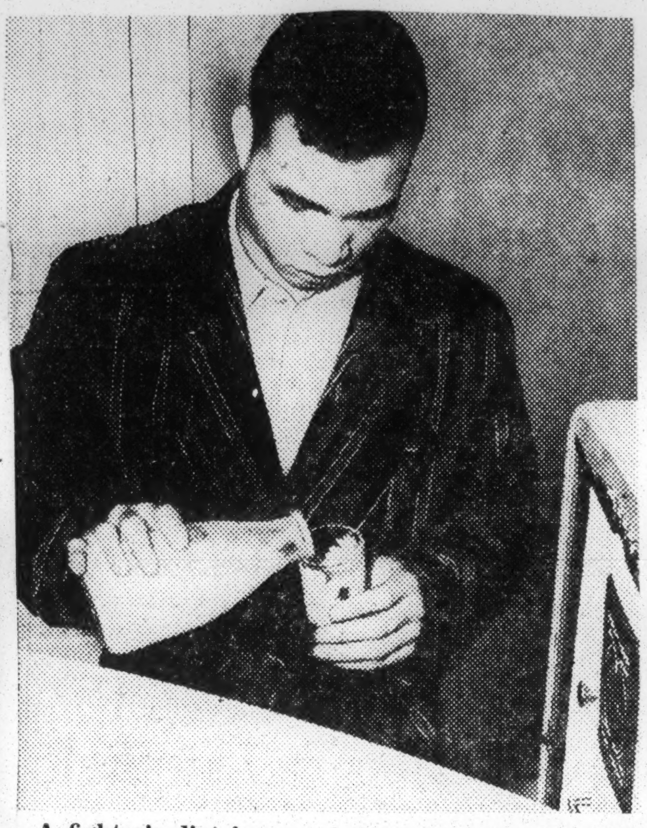
The Afro-American

63c

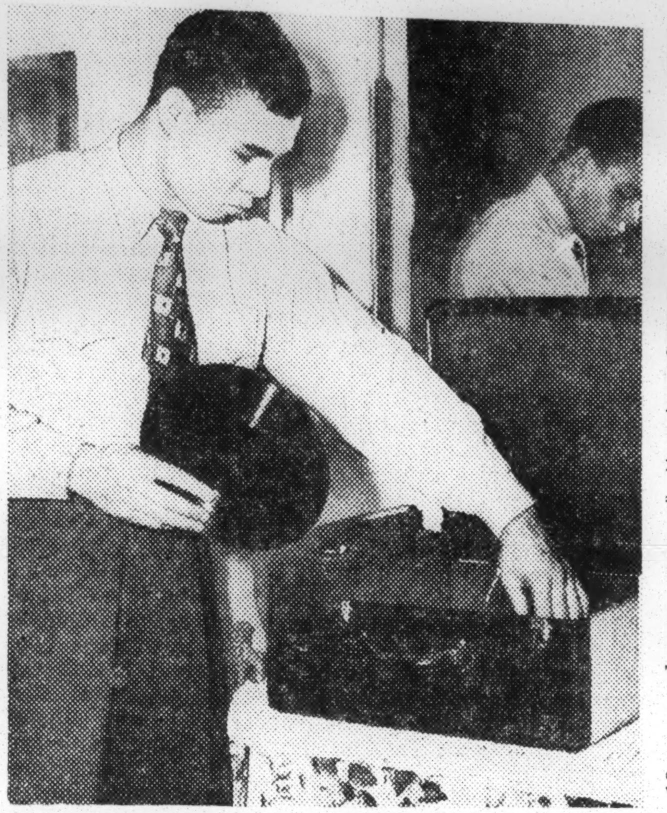


Baltimore, Md. Sat. 12-14-46

Billy's day begins at 7 a.m., when he reaches out to turn off the alarm that rouses him from his regular nine hours of sleep. Within a few minutes after this picture was made, he was in Fairmount Park for roadwork.



A fighter's diet is one of the most important things in his conditioning routine. Although he avoids ice cream and other delicacies which have a fattening effect, Fox is quite fond of milk. In above photo he prepares a between-meals glass for himself.



For entertainment, Billy likes to listen to his large assortment of recordings. His tastes run from classics to swing and his favorites are all the modern top-liners. Here he is about to turn the disc on a King Cole platter.

63c

Billy Fox, Youngster 'Wise Guys' Snubbed, Now at Fame's Doorstep

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 12-14-46

Lad Who Begged in Vain for Fight Manager 5 Years Ago, Today Eyes Title Bout – And Maybe Joe Louis

By FRANKLIN BROWER

PHILADELPHIA

Five years ago, a somber-faced youth was knocking at the office doors of several New York fight managers, seeking a chance to break into the boxing game. But none was in.

Not a single one of the wise-guys who ply the trade was willing to listen to this young upstart, fresh from the "hinterlands" of Richmond, Va. For how were they to know that in comparatively short time, he would be standing on the threshold of fame?

How were they to know then that today the same lad would be coming up to a bout with the light-heavyweight champion of the world—with the next stop Joe Louis?

The youth? He's Billy Fox, the 20-year-old fistic sensation who has captivated the sports world in general, and the boxing fraternity in particular, with 47 knockouts in 47 outings.

Billy's appetite for fighting, whetted by the successes of Louis and Henry Armstrong, became too strong to beat down after he had knocked out another youth during a street scuffle.

This indifference on the part of the fight manager, therefore, was just another temporary obstacle.

Dad Didn't Like It

Even before the kid reached New York, he had encountered difficulties. His father, a farmer-school teacher who had moved to Virginia from Oklahoma early in the depression, regarded his son's ambition as a rather unattractive one.

A Tuskegee alumnus, Melvin Fox was steeped in the Booker T. Washington tradition of working with the hands, but he couldn't quite countenance what son Billy contemplated doing with his.

However, it was the younger Fox, who had his way and, as there were no opportunities around Richmond for boys of his leanings, he entrained for New York with money he had earned as a bootblack.

Meets N.Y., Meets Troubles

He arrived in Gotham late in '41, and ran smack into the frustrations, human indifference and personal rebukes which small town folk have come to associate with New York.

None of the trainers approached by Fox, as he knocked about from gym to gym, indicated any interest in him. Nor did they even hint where he might be received more cordially.

A bit discouraged but not willing to toss in the sponge, Billy decided that he would probably fare better in a smaller city and headed for Philadelphia. And what he has done during his four-year residence in the City of Brotherly Love, is ring history.

Finally finding someone to proffer a helping hand, Billy rose rapidly through the amateurs and has, on the strength of a modern record of 47 consecutive knockouts, become the third-ranking light-heavyweight in the country.

But even in Philadelphia, Fox didn't find a bed of roses right away. While bootblacking in a mid-city shoe repair shop, he was making unsuccessful efforts to contact Frankie Thomas, then manager of Bob Montgomery, and other men connected with the biff business.

Then, one day in 1942, someone told him about the Sigma Theta Club in South Philadelphia. Fox went there, explained his aspirations to Trainer Richard Dixon, and was soon a member of the club's crack amateur team.

Makes Pro Debut

Albeit awkward at the start, Billy advanced meteorically and when he deserted the simon-pure ranks in 1943, he had fittingly appropriated the Middle Atlantic AAU middleweight diadem.

With only 16 ameteur fights under his belt, Billy didn't think he was ripe for pro competition, but Jimy Reed, who was training him and handling front office matters, persuaded him to make his fight-for-pay debut in Oct., 1943.

After he had dismantled each of his first six foes in less than three rounds, Frank (Blinkey) Palermo, owner of a large stable of fighters, spotted him and took over the managerial reins, retaining Reed, a middleweight fighter of the early 'twenties', as trainer.

Guided Carefully

Palermo has guided Billy with discretion, never rushing or overmatching him. Indeed, many fans have alleged that the youngster has been consistently undermatched, that his victims were bums.

The truth is that while Fox didn't tackle any high-ranking fighters until he completed an eight-month stint in the Army last year, he did at least make his mark against fighters with comparable experience. Included among these was the veteran trial hourse. Speed Duval, only fighter to extend Billy beyond four rounds in his first 35 fights.

Since receiving his honorable discharge from the Army on V-J Day (he was stationed at Fort McCelllan, Ala.), Fox has proved his calibre against stiffer competition, stopping, among others, George Kochan and Nate Bolden, who were ranked among the top ten light-heavies at the time he polished them off.

Prepping for Title Go

Billy is currently readying himself for a light-heavyweight title go, February 28, and while he doesn't regard Champion Gus Lesnevich as a soft touch, the feeling is apparently mutaul.

Many fans who think that Billy will bet Lesnevich also give him a fat chance of annexing the coveted heavyweight crown when he adds the neccessary poundage.

In addition to Billy's punching prowess, the youth also has a striking physical resemblance to the Brown Bomber.

He has an ideal body for a boxer. His 172 pounds spread harmoniously over his skeleton networks, his shoulders are well-formed and his muscles are strong and flexible.

Poker Face

Also, Billy has the poker face that Louis made famous. His countenance is expressionless when he climbs into the ring and it is that way when he leaves it.

Fox's activities outside the roped square, like Joe's are above reproach. He doesn't smoke or drink acholic beverages, he likes good music and, although his formal education ended in the ninth grade, he reads widely, especially race and ring literature.

When he's in training, Fox gets nine hours of sleep each night, hitting the pillow shortly after 10 p.m.

He's up at 7 a.m., and after running for an hour he rests and at 10 a.m. downs one of the two heavy meals he eats each day.

Keeps Level Head

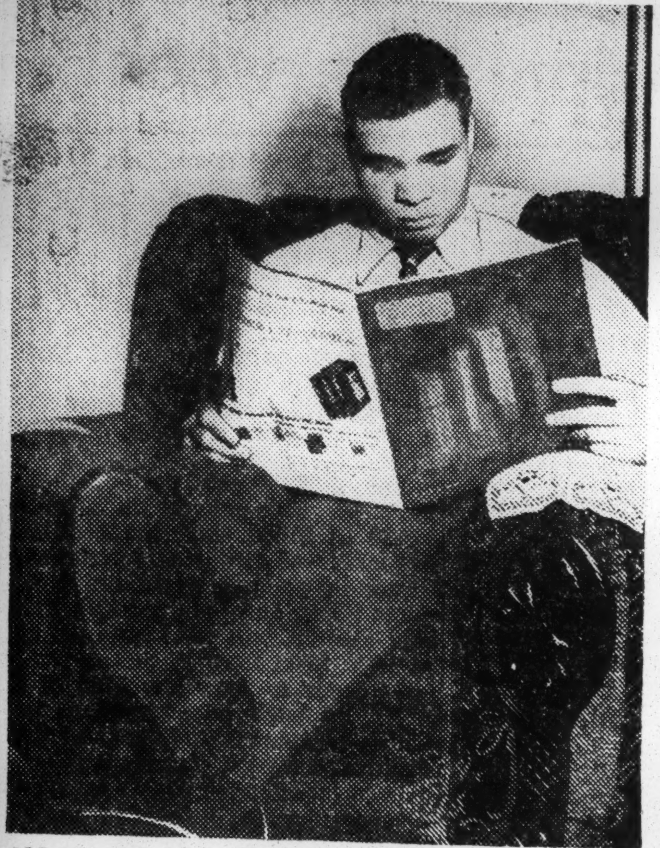
For food Billy is partial to greens and broiled meats. Beween meals he might drink milk but shies away from ice cream and other delicacies because he adds surplus weight easily.

Success hasn't increased the size of Billy's hat, something he seldom dons. He's pulling down fancy purses but he isn't squandering his money, some of which he has donated to worthwhile institutuions. Recently he gave $500 to a boys' club.

But the thing about Billy's success that probably pleases him most is not the big purses, but that his father has become reconciled to his son's career.

Billy recently took his father to New York on a sight-seeing

tour and Melvin Fox's chest must have expanded with paternal pride when Billy was introduced amidst cheers at Madison Square Garden.



Oldest son of a Tuskegee alumnus and school teacher, Billy cut short his formal education in order to launch his fistic career. However, he has continued to broaden himself, reading widely, especially race and ring literature.

Down to work, Billy listens carefully as Frank (Blinkey) Palermo, his genial manager, whispers several pointers to him. Manager Palermo thinks that Fox is a sure bet for the light-heavyweight championship.

12-14-46

Ring Record of Billy Fox

BILLY FOX'S RECORD
ALL KNOCKOUTS

1943

Billy Williams (2), Philadelphia; Bobby Brown (3), Atlantic City; John Furia (2), Philadelphia; Jesse Douglas (3), Philadelphia; George Wesley (1), Philadelphia; Billy Smith (3), Atlantic City; Kid Wolfe (4), Philadelphia; Johnny Ferrara (2), Philadelphia; Mickey O'Conner (1), Philadelphia; Billy Smith (3), Philadelphia; Wesley Hayes (2), Atlantic City;

Frankie Mack (1), Philadelphia; Johnny Finney (2), Philadelphia; Nelson Canty (3), Philadelphia; Patsy Mandell (2), Philadelphia; Bill Horn (2), Philadelphia; Willie Clayton (2), Philadelphia; Teddy Horton (2), Philadelphia; Kay Scully (3), Philadelphia; Larry Kellum (3), Atlantic City; Andy Holland (2) Harrisburg; Verne Atkins (1), Philadelphia; Speedy Duval (7), Atlantic City; Baby Kid Chocolate (4), Batesville, N.J.; Rocky Luciano (2), Philadelphia;

Bob Clark (1), Pittsburgh; Johnny Finnazzo (4), Philadelphia; Wild Bill McDowell (3), Philadelphia; Harold Gary (3), New York; Tony Gray (1), Philadelphia; Freddy Flores (1), New York.

1945

Jimmy Davenport (1), Newark; Eddie Rossi (1), Wilkes-Barre; Jimmy Polk (2), New York; Leon Szymurski (2), Philadelphia; George Kochan (6), Philadelphia.

1946

Nate Bolden (2), Philadelphia; Ossie Harris (10), Pittsburgh; Ossie Harris (10), Philadelphia; Joe Reddick (3), Allentown; Johnny Walker (1), Philadelhia.

Harry Wills Story Coming In "Ebony"

Amsterdam News, New York, N.Y.

CHICAGO — Distinguished from all but a few pugilists both white and Negro, Harry "Black Panther" Wills is an ex-boxer who not only isn't broke but makes over $25,000 yearly, says a photo-profile in the September issue of Negro picture magazine Ebony.

The colorful ex-boxer, denied a championship fight with Jack Dempsey which most experts concede he would have won, is a real estate man without an office, the article states. He owns two profit-making Harlem apartment houses and two big country estates.

The pictorial feature, written by sports writer Dan Burley, managing editor of the New York Amsterdam News,? shows Wills lithe and athletic at 54. His weight is a trim 240, only ten pounds over his fighting weight at the time of his retirement. Sat. 8-31-46

The Black Panther, a close friend of Joe Louis, Jack Dempsey and the late Jack Johnson among other ring greats, boasts one of the all-time best records. Wills won 476 out of his 480 fights, losing twice to the "Boston Tar Baby" Sam Langford, and once to both Paolina Uzcudum and Luis Firpo. The latter two losses came late in Wills' career. Old Sam beat him twice when Wills was a comparative newcomer But Wills evened things up eventually by kayoing Langford twice.

Wills' career stretches over a phenomenal 24-year span, begun with a ninth-round KO win in 1911 and ending with a fourth-round KO in 1934.

Of his warm friendship with Joe Louis, the article quotes Wills: "Joe and I are very good friends. I visit his training camp and attend all his fights. I think the boy is one of the greatest champions and a very good man."

AAU Sidetracks Racial Issue

The Afro-American Sat.

SAN ANTONIO — (NNPA)—A protest against the color bar which the District of Columbia AAU maintains in amateur boxing was tabled last Sunday after a special committee at the closing session of the 58th annual convention of the National AAU said it felt that it was the duty of the association to follow the rules and allow equal participation. 12-21-46

The District of Columbia AAU follows a policy of granting sanctions for amateur boxing events only on condition that no mixed bouts will be staged. As a consequence, the Washington Times-Herald, which has sponsored the Golden Gloves tournament in Washington for several years, has withdrawn its sponsorship. The Washington Post also withdrew from joint sponsorship with the District AAU of an AAU tournament. Baltimore, Md.

Jack Kearns Says Dempsey Wanted To Fight Wills

The Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

HOUSTON—Political fears prevented Jack Dempsey from meeting Harry Wills, Jack Kearns, manager of the Manansas Mauler, told the press here last week.

"The New York Boxing Commission, old Muldoon especially, wanted us to meet Wills. We agreed, too, and then Governor Frank Miller called me down and asked me to call it off. That was in 1926 and he was afraid if he sanctioned a mixed match it would hurt his chances. Sat. 12-14-46

"The Boxing Commission was leery about releasing the news to the press and to this day some people think we side-stepped Wills."

The veteran fight manager conceded that Joe Louis is a great fighter, but said Dempsey would have beaten him.

Kearn was here with Joey Maxim, who kayoed Jimmy Webb in a scheduled ten-rounder.

Louis Draws Top Crowds

Afro-Am., Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK — Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis was boxing's biggest drawing card during the 1946 sports season, according to figures released early this week. The Brown Bomber's two title defenses, against Billy Conn and Tami Mauriello, aggregated $2,260,627 in the turnstiles, the money being contributed by 83,760 persons.

Joe Louis

Sat. 1-11-47

Beau Jack, with three fights, was ranked sixth on the list of crowd-pullers, with Jersey Joe Walcott, ninth, and Willie Joyce, tenth. Sat. 1-11-47

The leading money-pullers, with the number of fights in which they figured, are as follow:

Fighter	Attendance	Gross
Joe Louis (2)	83,760	$2,260,627
Billy Conn (1)	45,266	1,925,564
Rocky Graziano (3)	77,822	624,634
Tami Mauriello (3)	52,288	433,653
Tony Zale (1)	39,827	342,497
Beau Jack (3)	45,219	288,354
Johnny Greco (3)	42,741	270,635
Marty Servo (2)	36,466	265,668
Joe Walcott (3)	40,830	227,897
Tony Pellone (5)	52,072	206,037
Willie Joyce (4)	47,322	201,685
Tommy Bell (2)	31,864	157,384
Lee Oma (2)	27,847	157,384
Sugar Robinson (2)	28,023	134,574
Allie Stolz (2)	25,009	132,022
Bob Montgomery (2)	23,558	119,022
George Abrams (2)	26,822	118,858

63c 1946 General

A.A.U. BOXING TEAM LEAVES FOR EUROPE

The National Amateur Athletic Union's boxing team which will tour Europe is pictured here aboard the S. S. Ile De France before their departure from Boston. The first bouts will be in London. Front row, left to right: Keith Hamilton, New Orleans; Harold Anspach, Williamsport, Pa.; Leo Kelly, Pittsburgh, and John Arduini, Washington, D. C. Back row, left to right: Pete Millo, New York, trainer; George McGee, Baltimore; John Tucker, Columbus, O.; Charles Lester, Cleveland; Roscoe Hinson, New York, and Jerry Looney, Washington, D. C., coach. — Acme Photo.

Ike Williams Kayoes James In Ninth Round

CARDIFF, Wales (NNPA) — Ike Williams of Trenton, New Jersey, retained his National Boxing Association lightweight title last Wednesday night by knocking out Ronnie James, the British Empire Champion in 2:41 of the ninth round in a scheduled 15-round bout before a crowd of 40,000 at Ninian Park.

The result never was in doubt after the sixth round when Williams opened up with a flurry of rights and lefts that sent James to the canvas for the first time. Until then, Williams had been boxing easily.

But once Williams opened up there was no stopping him. James barely managed to weather the seventh after taking a count of nine and Williams opened the eighth round with another flurry of lefts and rights to the head which floored James for a count of eight. Twice later in that round he went down, the second time for a nine count and the third time for eight.

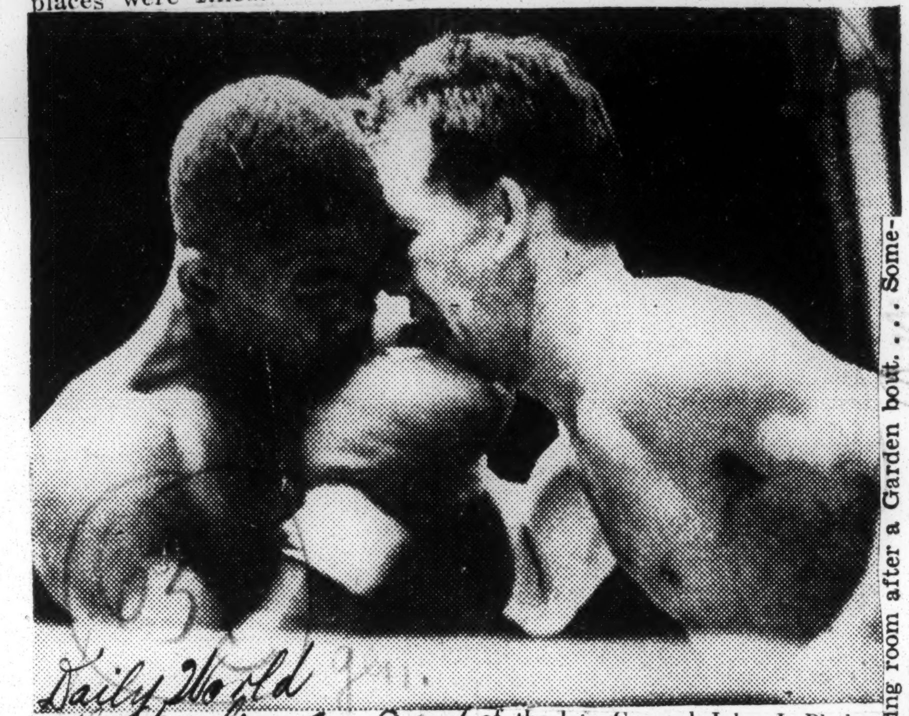
The Welshman took a count of nine at the opening of the ninth round on a belt-line blow that had some of the partisan crowd protesting "foul". James seemed undecided whether to claim a foul, but beat the count to get to his feet and immediately was knocked down again for a count of nine.

James dragged himself up with the aid of the ropes, only to meet a hard right to the stomach that dropped him for the knockout.

Williams, who had to spend the afternoon in a hotel boiler room to take off a pound and eight ounces in order to make the weight limit, was a 5 to 2 favorite. He weighed 134½, against 134 pounds and two ounces for James.

Williams won all rounds except the third, which was even.

Despite an intermittent rain and high winds, the 35,000 seats in Ninian Park, which sold at prices up to $20 each, were filled long before ringtime—3 p.m., and 5,000 of the 15,000 standing room only places were filled.



AS AMERICAN DOWNED BRITISH CHAMP-CARDIFF, WALES —Ike William (left) of Trenton, N. J., drives a right to Ronnie James' jaw during their scheduled 15-round fight at Ninain Park, Cardiff, Wales, Sept. 4th. Williams retained his National Boxing Association World Lightweight title by knocking out James, British Empire Champ, in 2 minutes 41 seconds of the 9th round.

THE BOXING RACKET

Sirs:

In "The Boxing Racket" (LIFE, June 17) you have a large picture of Mike Jacobs.

I notice a small safety pin on the inside of the left sleeve of his coat. I am wondering why it is there.

JAY E. HARGETT

Marion, Kan.

Sirs:

If Multimillionaire Mike Jacobs, smugly displaying high-priced tickets for the Louis-Conn fight, had only observed his father's honest profession as tailor, his clothes might have been properly repaired.

BETTE WILLIAMS

Norwalk, Conn.

Sirs:

In your June 17 issue you refer to me as "Honest Willie" Glizenberg, a character in "Uncle Mike" Jacobs' $16,000,000 prizefight industry.

First, permit me to set you straight —the name is Gilzenberg and not Glizenberg.

Second, Freddie Cochrane and myself signed to fight Ray Robinson on four different occasions in the presence of the late General John J. Phelan, former chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission. . . .

Ray Robinson withdrew from each bout due to some managerial difficulties he got himself in with his late manager, Curt Horrmann, so he claimed.

Marty Servo was one of five opponents submitted to me by Colonel Edward P. F. Eagan, chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission. I selected Servo because I thought Cochrane could beat him, and agreed, along with Servo, that the winner meet Ray Robinson on May 24, 1946.

That Robinson hasn't caught up with Servo as yet is none of my affair, but Freddie Cochrane never ducked any opponent in his life and in my opinion would have easily beaten Sugar Ray back in 1942 when he was younger and hadn't put in active duty on 54 islands in the South Pacific.

WILLIE GILZENBERG

Charles Gets Off Floor, Beats Bivins

PITTSBURGH (NNPA)— Ezzard Charles of Cincinnati got off the floor from a nine-count knockdown in the third round to win a unanimous decision over Jimmy Bivins, ranking heavyweight, in a 10-round bout at the Gardens last Tuesday night, Nov. 12.

An 8-to-5 underdog in the betting, Charles piled up a big lead in the early rounds and staved off a rally by Bivins in the last three rounds. Bivins tried desperately for a knockout in the eighth round, but was unable to put away his opponent.

IKE WILLIAMS, Negro NBA lightweight champ, is ahead on points over his ex-manager Connie McCarthy. The hard-hitting kid's contract with McCarthy expired and Ike sought a manager who could do more for him. But evidently McCarthy isn't quite so ready to part with his gold-mine and has been getting promoters to give Ike the cold shoulder unless he hooks up again with McCarthy. Ike's former pilot also insists that he still has exclusive rights to his ring services. . . . This whole business sounds like a lousy and unfair squeeze-play against Ike . . . and for what it's worth we'll go on record as saying we were far from impressed with the manner of Connie McCarthy whom we've seen many times in Ike's dressing room after a Garden bout. . . . Somethink about the florid-faced McCarthy that left a sour taste in our mouth . . . always looked and behaved like a typically callous and loud-mouthed movie version of a fight manager. . . . Rarely did we ever see Ike and him speak to each other or show any signs of fondness in those dressing-room sessions.

Anyway, the court has awarded Ike a temporary injunction against Connie McCarthy and the Fight Managers Guild . . . with Ike told to deposit one-third of his future ring earnings with the court until the case is settled. . . .

In this corner

Mike Kind'a Glad That Kapilow Lost

By Bill Mardo

(Reprinted from yesterday's late edition of The Worker)

Daily Worker

Mike Jacobs never loses—even when it seems that he might. Take Friday night's Kapilow-Joyce affair, f'rinstance. Kapilow is owned by Al Weil, the same gent who handles Marty Servo. Weil and Jacobs have been going at it hot and heavy about the still forthcoming Servo-Robinson setto—with Jacobs insisting it go into the Garden and Weil wanting an outdoor title defense for his boy. Understandable enough from Weil's point of view, for he knows darn well it'll be Servo's first and last as champ. Jacobs, however, doesn't think the fight will even half-way fill Yankee Stadium, because Servo's prestige has lessened considerably since Rocky Graziano belted him out in two rounds. What really frightened the boxing promoter is the horrible thought that putting on the Stadium show before a half-empty house will wind up costing him money—and that'll never do, says Michael. But Weil insisted it was outdoors or nothing; the New York Boxing Commission says Servo can't fight anyone without first defending against Robbie—and so the rhubarb was finally resolved with a Sept. 6 Stadium date.

Mon. 8-5-46

No sooner was that one clinched than shrewd Mister Weil went and got Kapilow a big outdoor fight with Beau Jack in Washington, Aug. 19, under the auspices of one Goldie Ahearn. Jacobs didn't like that one bit, knowing that he was on the outside looking in—at a bout that will draw wonderfully well in the Capital, where Beau Jack is a red-hot attraction since his hectic winning brawl out there with Sammy Angott.

New York

So Al Weil really had Jacobs over a barrel. He had Kapilow signed in a big one with Beau Jack—and also the Servo-Robinson thing outdoors—with the threat that Servo would defend against someone else and for some other promoter if Jacobs still tried to squeeze out of the Sept. 6 Stadium show. Yes, indeedy, Jacobs had been outsmarted until . . . well, until Mister Willie Joyce went and humbled Cautious Kapilow at the Garden Friday night. Some of the shine has now been taken away from the Washington affair—Weil will have to come begging if he wants any more Garden shots for Kapilow—and it's just slightly possible that Mike may yet squeeze Weil into accepting an indoor title defense on the Servo-Robinson thing.

Monday 8-5-46

Ray Robinson, meanwhile, is still sweating it out at his Greenwood Lakes camp. The innocent victim of all these maneuverings isn't at all convinced that come Sept 6—or any other date—he'll actually get his long-awaited title fight. You'd be surprised how many people in the know insist that the Robbie-Servo scrap will never come off.

It goes without saying that Robinson cares little whether he fights Servo outdoors or at 49th St. . . whether the gate is big or small. Ray is willing to fight for nothing just to get his hands on the crown that so rightfully belongs to him.

New York, N.Y.

In this corner

Mon. 11-11-46

On AAU Boxing Jimcrow, And Other Bits

Daily Worker

By Bill Mardo

AND NOW let's get back to normal. About time, too That Army-Notre Dame noise was beginning to sound like the end of the world. Here are a few vital items which most of the "free press" doesn't feel free to print:

Did you know, for instance, of the very real battle against sport Jimcrow that's being waged in Washington, D. C.? Capitol city progressives are doing more than just protest the local AAU's Jimcrow boxing policy. There's a court case pending against the AAU ban on Negro fighters in its annual tourneys. Look at the blatant hypocricy of the AAU moguls in D. C. They have no qualms about accepting membership fees from Negro amateurs, but can't see their way clear toward letting them compete in the big boxing shows.

It will be interesting to see what court ruling comes forth from the city which seats our government. The AAU's concept of democracy seems to run hot and cold. It does itself proud in the world of track and no one will forget the fine AAU stand on the June races in San Antonio, Texas. Jimcrow tradition was shattered left and right when the AAU responded to popular protest by demanding and getting a non-Jimcrow Pullman for both Negro and white runners travelling to Texas. And a little more recently the AAU cancelled a track show in one Southern city which refused to permit Negro and whites to compete together.

But this AAU boxing policy in Washington, D. C.—what an ugly contrast.

Mon. 11-11-46

Pay Mose Brown; Bar Him For Life

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.

CLEVELAND — The Cleveland Boxing Commission paid Mose Brown, 30 - year - old Pittsburgh fighter, for his trouble in putting up a poor fight against white Tommy Yarosz of Monaca, Pa., here Monday night, July 8.

Brown, who had seven straight knockouts to his credit, had his purse of $600 held up by the commission after the fight. On Tuesday, Referee Jackie Davis said he thought Brown "was doing his best."

Sat. 7-20-46

The commission suspended Brown for life from Cleveland's ring.

Zale Rated As 'Fighter Of the Year'

PM New York, N.Y.
Mon. 12-30-46

Middleweight Champion Tony Zale today was named "fighter of the year" by *The Ring* magazine in its annual ratings of the world's boxers.

The New York Boxing Writers Assn. already had awarded the 32-year-old Zale the Edward J. Neil plaque for the outstanding performance in the sport during 1946 by knocking out Rocky Graziano in the sixth round here on Sept. 27.

Nat Fleischer, editor of *The Ring*, hailed the Zale - Graziano bout as the "fight of the year" in his copyrighted story that accompanied the ratings in his magazine's February issue.

Joe Louis, heavyweight champion, ranked second to Zale in the competition for "Fighter of the Year" because of his knockout victories over Billy Conn and Tami Mauriello.

Despite Conn's poor performance against Louis, *The Ring* rates him the world's No. 2 contender af r Mauriello, No. 1. Fleischer explains the Conn rating:

"The fact that he kept on his feet against Joe Louis for nearly eight rounds entitles him to this consideration, though he didn't consider the feelings of the fans who paid $100 a ringside seat to see him fight, not perform a dance."

Mike Jacobs and Jack Solomons, London promoter, were recognized as the world's top promoters for the year.

Here are the top men in *The Ring's* ratings for 1946, listed in the order of their rankings:

HEAVYWEIGHT—Joe Louis, champion; Tami Mauriello, Billy Conn, Elmer Ray, Bruce Woodcock, Joe Walcott, Curtis Sheppard, Joey Maxim, Joe Baksi, Lee Q. Murray, Melio Bettina, Jimmy Bivins, Phil Muscato, Lee Oma, Nathan Mann.

LIGHT-HEAVY—Gus Lesnevich, champion; Ezzard Charles, Billy Fox, Archie Moore, Jack Chase, Billy Smith, Booker Beckwith, Freddie Mills, Lloyd Marshall, Tommy Yarosz, Johnny Colan, Fitzie Fitzpatrick, Dave Sands.

MIDDLE—Tony Zale, champion; Jake Lamotta, Charley Burley, Rocky Graziano, Marcel Cerdan, Georgie Abrams, Bert Lytell, Steve Belloise, Artie Levine.

WELTER—Ray Robinson, champion; Tippy Larkin, Tommy Bell, Beau Jack, Marty Servo, Jackie Wilson, Willie Joyce, Tony Pellone, Johnny Greco, Tony Janiro, Jimmy Doyle.

FEATHER—Willie Pep, champion; Phil Terranova, Carlos Chavez, Oscar Calles, Miguel Acevedo, Jock Leslie, Sal Bartolo, Jackie Graves, Spider Armstrong, Sandy Saddler, Charley Cabey Lewis, Nel Tarleton, Mickey McKay, Mickey Francis, Joey Dolan.

BANTAM—Manuel Ortiz, champion; David Kui Kong Young, Luis Castillo, Dado Marino, Peter Kane, Tony Olivera, Georges Mousse, Cliff Anderson, Theo Medina, Jackie Jurich, Benny Goldberg, Stan Rowan, Fernando Gagnon, Ernesto Aguilar, Leonardo Lopez.

12-30-46

FLY—Jackie Paterson, champion; Rinty Monaghan, Bunty Doran, Jimmy Gill, Jackie Bryce, Joe Curran, Alec Murphy, Terry Allen, Mickey Hill, Billy Davies, Teddy Gallagher, Charlie Kerr, Alf Hughes, Raoul Degryse.

Biyins wins first in four; scores a knockout

Tribune
Los Angeles, Calif.

AKRON, Ohio — Jimmy Bivins, duration heavyweight ruler who foundered badly in the postwar, scored a four-round knockout over Colin Chaney, Indianapolis, here last week after chasing him about the ring from the opening bell. Bivins caught up with him in 2:55 seconds of the fourth.

A right to the jaw followed by a smash to the kidneys dumped Chaney so hard that he dislocated his spine, and writhed in pain for minutes, until the boxing commission's doctor adjusted the vertebraes.

Sat. 12-14-46

It was a dull bout with the Indianan bicycling out of reach from the beginning and the only solid punches landed came at the finish. Bivins weighed 187½; Chaney 184.

The kayo broke Bivins' three-in-a-row losing streak.

Negro Boxers Have Made History Under Mike Jacob's Reign

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.
Fri. 12-20-46

NEW YORK.— (ANP) — Boxers in 1946 had one man whom they regarded in much the same light as Russians do Stalin.... That man was, of course, MICHALE STRAUSS JACOBS, once a lowly ticket agent who pyramided a slim bankroll into many millions and absolute overlordship of glove fighting in this, and many other sections of the nation.... Jacobs suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and on Saturday, Dec. 7, his heart acted up to the point his closest relations were sent for by hospital authorities. All of this points to ABE GREENE, NBA of boxing, being the Number 1 man in fisticuffs come January.

Among the tan-colored kids who made boxing history during the past 12 months outside of Joe Louis, Ray Robinson, Billy (Blackjack) Fox, Elmer (Violent) Ray and the amazing Ezzard Charles, were these hard-fisted gentlemen: Curtis (Hatchetman) Sheppard; Jersey Joe Walcott; Lee Q. Murray (very hard hitter); Jimmy (wife troubles) Bivins; Archie (Australia champ) Moore; Jimmy Edgar; Tommy Bell; Booker Beckwith; Wesley Mouzon; Beau Jack; Cecil Hudson; Bob (The Champ) Montgomery; Willie Joyce; Ike (NBA king) Williams, called the best lightweight of the past 10 years; (Jackie (California) Wilson; Charley (The Killer) Burley; Holman Williams, grand and ringwise Chicago veteran; John Thomas.

Johnny (The Showoff) Bratton; Willie Barrow, Joe Louis' cousin active in Baltimore rings until Curt Sheppard whipped him decisively; Leroy Evans, Bobby Shipman; Pee Wee Swingler, coast southpaw and a dangerous 125 pounder; Al Robinson, Eddie Prince, Edgar Robinson, Jimmy and Cleo Shans, Harold Dade, Watson Jones, Johnny Haynes, "Rusty" Payne, Gene Felton, Louis Franklin, Sanders Cox, Al (Classy Boy) Hoosman, Sandy Saddler.

MOUZON is blinded permanently in one eye as we go to press—this is indeed tragic and calls for immediate investigation with severe penalties.

In this corner

Is Another Joe Louis Coming Up?

By Bill Mardo

Already there is an electric quality about the name of Billy Fox, the Negro kid from Philly who flattened Ossie Harris two night ago for his 39th straight kayo in a like number of pro starts. Daily Worker

Remember back in 1934, when out-of-town scribes coming into New York would whisper in awed tones about a young Negro heavy named Joe Louis who was knocking 'em dead in Detroit? And do you recall how Joe Louis' name graduated out of the tiny agate lines under which all non-local fight results are listed, and how the wire services soon began filing long post-bout raves after each of his mid-west scraps? And before you knew it, the New York boxing writers began hopping the Detroit-bound train to get a gander at this new sensation named Joe Louis. New York, N.Y.

Well, it seems to be happening all over again, only this time the fighter involved is Billy Fox, the 20-year-old Philadelphian who apparently hits with much of the piston-like power that marked the rapid rise of King Joe. This isn't the first piece we've written about Fox, nor will it be the last, judging from the breakneck speed with which he's climbing to the top. Only once did we actually ever see Billy work, and that was three years ago in a four-round Garden prelim. But even then, the steely-eyed youngster had that certain undefinable mark about him which most folks refer to as class. Maybe it was the way he held his mitts as he quietly stalked his foe. Perhaps it was the tingling feeling everybody had that the 17-year-old novice could end the fight with one blow. You know, the same experience that grips you when watching Joe Louis, the incredible sensation that no matter what, sooner or later, the house is suddenly gonna cave in on the other guy. 5-22-46

And on several occasions, this corner has publicly urged Mike Jacobs to bring Billy back into the Garden for another look at this corner, who's forced to rack up his amazing list of kayoes in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and everywhere but New York, the mecca of big-time boxing.

Wednesday

All this is by way of saying we tuned in the other night on the Fox-Harris sizzler at Quaker City. And even over the air the kid generated more excitement than many of us see in countless Friday nights at the Garden. This one was a rematch, because two months ago Harris became the first man to go longer than six rounds with the red-hot kayo artist. On that occasion, Billy was having his hands full with the cagey veteran until he belted him out in the tenth and final frame.

It was the same way two nights ago, only this time Ossie "The Bulldog" was using his vast experience to pile up a big point margin. He was hooking his younger foe silly, with Billy bleeding from the nose and one eye completely closed. Going into the tenth, the only way Fox could preserve his win-and-kayo streak was to score a last-minute knockout. A decision was bound to go against him, that's how far behind he was. All we know is that, even with such terrible odds against Fox, we couldn't quiet the feeling that he was going to do the trick.

5-22-46

A crunching left hook to the belly followed by a short piledriver to the button ended it. Harris was stretched cold, and it took another minute to revive him. The scrap proved two things, and the press and radio account of the fight bore this out. The rapidly growing light-heavy can take it as well as give, and what's more important, his two fists contain the same lethal qualities in the tail-end of a bout that they have at the opening bell.

Many experts have gone on record to the effect that Billy Fox is the closest thing to another Joe Louis that has come along yet. He'll take a bit more schooling, for he caught too many punches to be quite ready for Gus Lesnevich's crown.

This writer, for one, would like to see Fox develop further in local rings. But if Mike Jacobs persists in keeping Billy out of the Garden, well, it looks like we're in for a ride to Philly soon. It's time to get another first-hand glimpse of this terrifically talented youngster.

In this corner

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 6-26-46

Issue re Jacobs Monopoly Has Many Angles

By Bill Mardo

The writer has been asked to define this paper's position re the current controversy on Mike Jacobs. It's a many-sided issue and one which warrants full and serious analysis. Suppose we lead off by saying it's most unfortunate that the anti-Jacobs campaign has been initiated and led by people who are concerned not so much with putting boxing on a fairly even keel, but who prefer to use Jacobs' sins as a springboard for a political smear campaign motivated by strong anti-Negro and anti-Semitic prejudices.

Jimmy Powers is a classic example of what we mean. The Daily News columnist started the ball rolling several months ago with a beef against Jacobs, but the alleged resentment which Powers felt toward the boxing czar soon developed into a ridiculous debate as to whether or not Mike Jacobs and Branch Rickey were real friends of the Negro people. And then, in the same breath that he posed his concern about Negro athletes getting a square shake, the News' sports editor belittled Joe Louis and also the chances of Jackie Robinson to make good in baseball. "We wrote before, and we repeat it here," remarked Powers last March, "that we don't believe Jackie Robinson, colored college star signed by the Dodgers for one of their farm teams, will ever play in the big leagues." That same column saw Jimmy Powers continue his rather devious attack on Mike Jacobs by slandering Joe Louis, whom the News' columnist said, was "figuratively jingling a tin cup to pick up exhibition money." Wed 6-26-46

What a strange way that was to fight against the Jacobs monopoly in boxing! What manner of reasoning was it that made necessary an attack on Joe Louis and Jackie Robinson in order for Powers to justify his campaign against the boxing promoter? So we all saw how what was supposed to be a very righteous fight to clean up boxing soon deteriorated into a snide and nasty polemic on the one issue where the czar of boxing can't be fought—namely his stand in support of Negro boxers.

New York, N.Y.

Now we don't say that Mike Jacobs has been motivated by any deep and conscious understanding on the Negro question, that's silly. As far as Jacobs was concerned, it was purely smart business. He knew that the topflight attractions in the fight game were men like Joe Louis, Henry Armstrong, Beau Jack and others, and it would have been ridiculous of him, from a business point of view, to discriminate against these great Negro battlers.

So much for that aspect of the so-called campaign against Mike Jacobs. But if anyone seriously doubted that the Daily News was more interested in doing a job on Joe Louis than it was on Mike Jacobs, we suggest reading Jimmy Powers' column of two days ago, wherein he again "attacked" Jacobs through the medium of a harangue against the remarkable ring record of Joe Louis.

Wrote Jimmy Powers on June 24th: "We cannot forget that a green novice, Buddy Baer, knocked Joe Louis on his head out of the ring; that a clumsy, pot-bellied bartender, Tony Galento, floored him; that an arthritic Jimmy Braddock flattened him, and so did an aged and past-his-prime Max Schmeling." And then, lest his readers forget that he was supposed to be campaigning against Mike Jacobs and not the greatest heavyweight champion in history, Powers continued: "When you stop to recall all the disgraceful fights Mike Jacobs has promoted, Louis-Paychek, Louis-Levinsky, Louis-Conn, etc., you realize Mike will go down in history all right—as the worst promoter of all time who took the most money away from the fans."

It should be obvious to even the most naive what Jimmy Powers' game really is. Just as it should be clear that others, like Rep. O'Toole, are using the issue for all it's worth as a political tool of the vilest sort.

* * *

Now all this must be understood before going into the controversy about whether or not Mike Jacobs is bad for boxing. Certainly the machine which Jacobs has built up with his 20th Century Sporting Club is the most powerful sort of one-man rule in the fight game. It's a known fact that no talented scrapper can get anywhere unless he signs up with the very un-paternal "Uncle Mike." It is a known fact that Mike Jacobs more often than not sets the stipulations for any fight in this city, stipulations which seem to be agreed to in Charlie McCarthy fashion by the New York State Boxing Commission.

The faults of Mike Jacobs are many, and constitute a real danger to the welfare of professional boxing. Just as the repercussions of the dictatorial setup in baseball are beginning to make themselves heard. Neither is there any question that Mike Jacobs has milked the public dry with the fantastic prices he charged during the war, and continues to charge now. There wasn't one seat in Yankee Stadium last Wednesday night which was worth, from point of visibility, even a third of the price which Jacobs got for it. 6-26-46

Yes, there are many things which Jacobs can be attacked for, providing the issues aren't beclouded in the manner typical of Jimmy Powers and Rep. O'Toole. Ray Robinson, for instance, has been getting a vicious runaround from Jacobs because the 20th Century Club's entrepreneur knew that Robbie could deflate every one of the headliners whom Uncle Mike exhibits at the Garden for exorbitant fees. It's only because the thing has reached a point where it would invite scandal for Jacobs to ignore Robinson further, that the great uncrowned welterweight champion will finally get his crack at Marty Servo in August.

Daily Worker

The preliminary fighters on any Jacobs promotion are terribly underpaid, and that goes as much for the semi-finalist as it does for the two kids who open the evening with a four-rounder while the fans are first filing in. A threatened strike by the Fight Managers Guild recently forced Jacobs to up the ante for the prelimmers.

An investigation to determine whether or not Jacobs constitutes a monopoly is very much in order. Gov. Dewey should be urged to name a competent body, whose sole function it would be to clean up the one-man rule which exists in this state. It might also be a good idea to house-clean the present Boxing Commission, and appoint men who would be capable of doing more than just echo the snap of Mike Jacobs' fingers, and believe me, he snaps them quite often.

Boxer-Father Dies After Fight Kayo

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

PROVIDENCE, R.I. —Bobby Burton, 24-year-old welterweight and father of two children, died here Wednesday night following his knockout at the hands of his opponent in a preliminary bout at the Arcadia.

Burton was stopped by a blow to the body shortly before the bell ending the match with a local boy of the same name, Bobby Burton. They were not related. Sat. 11-9-46

The young boxer was counted out by Referee Sharkey Buanno, and when he failed to regain consciousness a boxing commission medical examiner was summoned and Burton was pronounced dead.

The same examiner, Dr. James J. Flanagan, had declared Burton fit earlier in the day.

Formerly of Pittsburgh, Pa., the victim had recently been fighting out of Manchester, N.H. He is said to have been barred from New York rings on account of a heart condition.

O'Toolery and Mikery

News and Courier

The dispute between O'Toole, Esq., and Jacobs, Esq., respectively congressman and promoter of the manly art of self-defense, reminds of the inexplicable and inexcusable neglect and failure of the New Dealers to set up a PPC (Perfect Pugilistic Commission.). This commission should now be created, the salary of the CM, or Chief Magnate, of it should be $50,000 a year; O'Toole, Esq., should be appointed to the post and Mike Jacobs, Esq., should be FCA, or First Chief Assistant. That arrangement would settle the O'Tooleish quarrel with Jacobs, Esq. and restore tranquility to the prize ring. Discrimination on account of race, color, creed should continue non-existent, for the more highly-colored a fight is the more interesting and entertaining it is. The PPC should be authorized and empowered to decorate.

Sat 6-29-46

physical director for the governor of that province.

He will attend the Louis versus Conn fight in New York on June 19 and will present a medal to the winner on behalf of boxers of Argentina.

Respress Returns To U.S. For Visit And Louis Fight

Defender

Calvin Respress, sparring partner for Jack Johnson prior to World War I, returned to the United States from Argentina, South America, arriving in Miami, Fla., on May 22 and in Chicago on Tuesday, May 28. Respress is visiting his sisters and brother, Mrs. Usula Pirle, 4509 Dearborn, and Mrs Hattie Robinson, 3809 Calumet ave., and Elbirt Respress of the latter address.

When Germany declared war on France in July, 1914, Respress was in Paris, France, with Johnson, who was waiting for a fight with Sam Langford at the National Sporting club in London. Chiliean promoter signed Resp... for a tour of the South Amer... country. He defeated most of ... opponents and was declared chan... pion of Chili when the titleholder retired.

Sat 6-8-46

IN SANTIAGO, Chili, Respress met Louis A. Firpo, Argentina, and was disqualified, the officials claiming Respress hit the South American a low blow in the first round. However, Firpo said he didn't and a 15-round return match was arranged. Respress won the decision. He remained in Santiago until 1921 when he came back to the United States for a visit. During his absence, Firpo took out citizenship papers in Chili and was invited to take part in a tournament, the winner of which was to be declared the champion of South America. Firpo won the title and came to the United States to box upon the invitation of Respress.

Following Firpo's defeat at the hands of Jack Dempsey, Respress went with Firpo to Argentina. He toured Central and South America with Firpo giving exhibitions. He gave up boxing 15 years ago. He ... now physical director for the Jockey Club Proviencia de Buenas Aires. For a time he was private

On the Scoreboard

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

By Lester Rodney

HENRY ARMSTRONG, who only yesterday stood the sports world on its ear by winning and holding simultaneously three boxing championships and all but won a fourth, is now a manager of fighters. Except for some added poundage he looks much the same as the fury who flattened fasces-wearing Enrico Venturi, who outpunched game Lou Ambers while gagging for eight rounds from an uncloseable gash inside his mouth, who blasted Barney Ross into retirement after writing a beautiful poem of friendship for his opponent, who reeled under the fierce bolo punch of 160 pound champion Ceferino Garcia and came back to punch him into a "draw" that should have been his fourth title.

Mon. 11-4-46

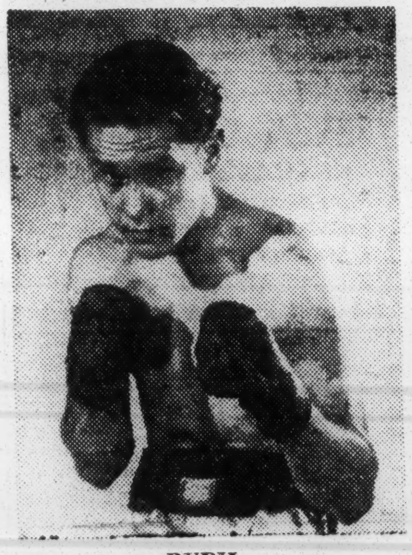
MASTER

Henry Armstrong . . . what a fighter was he!

In his little office on Columbus Circle the other day he explained why he had turned to managing and spoke about the six boxers whose careers he now handles.

"You know how many comebacks I made," he said. "I guess I had the fight game in my system. Well, I finally was convinced I was through as a fighter. But the ring was still in me. It was so much of my life you know. Then I saw Keith Nuthall." As soon as he mentioned Nuthall he leaned forward and took on something extra.

"This kid is only seventeen—he has another year to go in the amateurs, but he's going to be one of the all-time greats."



PUPIL

This sounded like quite a rave from the soft spoken, word-choosing Henry, even remembering that he was young Nuthall's manager. But it wasn't all.

"I think the kid will be a champion a year after he turns pro," Armstrong continued. "He just does everything just about right. A wonderful boy with a fine temperament, smart as a whip, and wants to fight. He already hits the bag and has footwork better than any pro.

"One night in Chicago, in the amateurs, he knocked out two opponents in a total of two minutes. You never saw aynthing like it. Class all over . . . and a wonderful pupil . . . he just lights up the ring when he steps through the ropes."

After that kind of rapturous buildup, the description of his other fighters was bound to sound anti-climactic. But Henry thinks he has some other champions in the making.

"I'm not interested in veteran fighters who will do pretty well, make money and not get any better," he emphasized. "These boys all have potentialities that can be developed."

Nuthall, who lives in Brigham, Utah, is white. Henry's other five fighters are Negroes.

Roy Miller of Kansas City, has already compiled an impressive record and Armstrong considers him a possible middleweight champ. Roy beat Jose Basora in Puerto Rico, breaking his jaw with a short right. Neither La Motta nor Ray Robinson could KO Basora.

Miller is 21 and has done most of his fighting on the West Coast, where Armstrong has his permanent home. He's coming East to meet Jimmy Edgar in Detroit on the 19th and if he wins, will get a crack at La Motta.

Eighteen year old Muggy Hursey of Washington, D.C., is even a brighter natural prospect for the middleweight title in some respects, Henry thinks. He has already knocked out fighters of the caliber of Chuck Taylor and Danny Kapilow and will be heard from.

Levi Southall is a hard punching young welterweight with 10 KO's in 13 pro fights. Armstrong thinks he too has the possibilities of going all the way to the top. His two other fighters, not quite in the championship class, are featherweight Billy Reed and lightweight Bill Terry.

There was no point in asking Henry how he liked managing. The excitement in his voice as he spoke of the possibilities of Nuthall made that unnecessary from the start.

Outside of managing, he still dabbles in poetry, is interested as ever in what is going on in the world and in the country (he has spoken at Freeport for the Furgeon family and in the fur market for the Spanish Refugees just recently), is especially proud of his talented eleven year old daughter Lanetta and likes Los Angeles better than New York despite the necessity of making Gotham his fight headquarters.

As for an overall impression of some of the current fighters and the boxing scene:

"There's too much running away from each other. This one won't fight that one, and that one won't fight this one. I used to take them all as they came. If someone is afraid of another man let him get out of the boxing game."

Which may sound a little harsh on the current crop, but certainly nobody has a better right to such a comment than the man who took them all as they came from 120 pounds right up through 160—the man who never took a backward step.

THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

Look Sharp! Feel Sharp . . . and Get Wise!

The Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 9-27-46

For some time now the Gillette Razor Blade Company has been sponsoring the Friday night fight broadcasts from Madison Square Garden with Bill Corum and Don Dunphy handling the mikes. Thousands listen to the swat show over the air and the Gillette "plug" which urges you to "Look Sharp! Feel Sharp! Be Sharp!" has become a household word.

However, before you men take it upon yourselves to look so sharp and feel so sharp, you might inquire of the Gillette Company just what its policy is concerning the publishing of Negro fighters' pictures in the newspaper advertising on Friday afternoons before each fight.

Each Friday afternoon before a fight at Madison Square Garden the Gillette Company places ads in papers throughout the country urging people to listen to the fight that night over the radio. For some peculiar reason, Gilletee never publishes the picture of a colored fighter in those advertisements when the opponent happens to be white. Whenever there is a mixed bout, Gillette publishes the white fighter's picture, even though the Negro fighter may be the top-heavy favorite. Last week, for instance, Ray Robinson, probably the greatest fighter in the ring today, fought comparatively unknown Joe Curcio. On Friday afternoon Gilletee published its usual advertisement. The picture published was that of Joe Curcio. Now that may have been just coincidental, but the fact remains that the only time Gillette publishes a picture of a Negro fighter is when another Negro fighter is the opponent.

Perhaps it just happens that way. But it seems to me that some time during the past two years the picture of a Negro fighter could have been published and the white opponent left out. Strangely, it never happens that way. Even when Joe Louis fought Conn on June 19, it was Conn's picture, and not the champion's, that was used in all the Gillette ads. Perhaps Gillette can explain its policy. We certainly can't figure it out. We don't want to holler "discrimination" . . . but it certainly looks like a revolting development!

The Tribune, Los Angeles, Calif. Sat. 12-28-46

Three famous fighters now have cafes in Harlem

NEW YORK—Three of the most famous names in prize fighting are raised in neon lights over as many cafes in Harlem. Joe Louis, Henry Armstrong and Ray 'Sugar' Robinson are all in the restaurant business here. Louis also owns an interest in the Rhumboogie in Chicago, a night club, which will reopen soon with ex-entertainer **Leonard Reed as manager.**

'Hope He Makes Good,' Says Connie Mack

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Baseball Owners Now Definitely Interested in Negro Players and Talk Freely on Issue at Annual Winter Meeting in Los Angeles.

Sat. 12-14-46

By JOHN R. WILLIAMS

LOS ANGELES—Leo (The Lip) Durocher, manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers and the man who probably holds Jackie Robinson's baseball future in the palm of his hand, declared here last week during the annual winter baseball meetings that "Jackie Robinson is one of the best looking prospects to come up from the minor leagues in the past ten years!"

The famous Brooklyn pilot was lavish in his praise of the sun-tanned second baseman who won the International League batting title his first year in organized baseball. He indicated that Robinson will be given a fair and thorough trial with the Dodgers during the spring training sessions next season.

Durocher's comments on Robinson highlighted a series of interviews we had with some of the biggest men in baseball who were meeting here at the internationally famous Ambassador Hotel.

OWNERS INTERESTED

Information gleaned during those interviews established one significant fact, and that was that the owners of major league teams are definitely interested in Negro players and that if Jackie Robinson makes good with the Dodgers, other teams are going to sign Negro stars.

One of Robinson's most enthusiastic supporters was Frank Shaughnessy, capable president of the International League. He lauded Jackie as a ball player and gentleman and said he would be glad to welcome Robinson back to the International League in 1947. "However," he added, "I doubt that we will be fortunate to get him back. I expect to see him make the grade with Brooklyn and star in the big leagues."

CONNIE MACK TALKS

Evidence that the question of Negro players in organized baseball is no longer a "behind the scene" topic was obvious when Connie Mack, venerable owner of the Philadelphia Athletics, heretofore silent on the subject, willingly gave his views.

"This is a new day," Connie Mack stated, "and I see no reason why Negroes should not be accepted in organized baseball. I hope to see Jackie Robinson with Brooklyn and sincerely hope that he makes good." Mr. Mack made the statement before his son, Roy Mack, who is also his assistant, and Jack Zeller, former general manager of the Detroit Tigers.

"Wish" Egan, famous scout of the Detroit team and the man who "found" such stars as Hank Greenberg, Schoolboy Rowe and others, said: "It isn't my business to say whether or not Negro players ought to be accepted. If, however, I were given the green light, I think I know where to find some mighty sweet colored players. Suppose you see my boss, Mr. Trautman."

WANT GOOD PLAYERS

We cornered Egan's boss, George Trautman, who has been elected the president of the minor league baseball empire and is no longer connected with the Detroit Tigers.

"Organized baseball is looking for good players," he declared. "We are not interested in anything but ability. Race, creed or color is in no way a factor."

Of all the baseball bigwigs we interviewed, the only one who was reluctant to air his views was W. G. Bramham, retiring president of the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues. A resident of Durham, N. C., Bramham was asked to make a statement.

"No comment," he said gruffly.

The fact remains, however, that their is a new attitude among the owners and officials relative to the Negro player. There was a time when they refused to discuss the issue. It was considered dynamite and they stayed away from it. Thanks to Branch Rickey and Jackie Robinson, however—they are no longer dodging the subject.

Daily World (Dem.)

Atlanta, Ga. Sun.

INAUGURATES NEW BUSINESS—Joe Louis conferring with Bill Bottoms, one of his partners in the new Joe Louis Products Company, Joe's latest business venture. The concern will put out a complete line of toiletries for men including a pomade which meticulous dresser Joe is especially loud in praise of. Walter Lowe, well known Chicago realtor, is the third partner.—(ANP) 1-3-47

Willie Joyce Wins Decision From Castiglione

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Willie Joyce won handily over Nick Castiglione, the Italian boxer who substituted for Beau Jack, injured in his last workout, Friday night at the Chicago Stadium.

The Italian was no match for Joyce. A crowd of 5,321, one-half of which might have watched the Joyce-Beau Jack bout, attended.

Joyce won all the rounds except the first and the fifth rounds.

Gene Joyce, brother of Willie, was victor over Alvin Gomez in six. Gene Spencer beat Willard Coffey in six. Casey Jones knocked out Doc Williams in the first. Bill Tierney won from Leo Jones in six. Leon Thompson beat Bill Parsons in six and Pat Iacobucci drew with Pete Bolos in six." 1-3-46 -23-

"Ring" Gives Joe Louis Second Place Among Fighters Of 1946

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Sun. 1-5-47

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—Declaring that "Never in the entire history of boxing has the heavyweight division been so devoid of top talent as at present," Ring Magazine went to the middleweight class in selecting Tony Zale as the "Fighter of the Year." Joe Louis placed second through his victories over Billy Conn and Tami Mauriello. This was Ring's 19th annual rating of the world's fighters.

In addition to the selection by Ring, Zale, of Gary, Ind., was also awarded the Edward J. Neil trophy as the man who did the most for boxing in 1946. The honors came as the result of seven straight knockouts. Only Joe Louis ever won both awards in one year, and that was back in 1941.

In spite of the poor caliber of most of the fighting, the takes "were extremely high because war money was still available to the average fight fan." No Negro fighters, however, were listed in the featherweight, bantamweight and flyweight divisions. The lightweight title was left vacant pending a contest between the two chief contenders, both Negroes, Bob Montgomery and Ike Williams.

EZZARD CHARLES STRONG CONTENDER

In the light-heavyweight class, Ezzard Charles, Cincinnati, was rated as the number one contender to champion Gus Lesnevich, although Billy Fox of Philadelphia will face the champion for the title in February. Ring explains the arrangement as a payoff on the part of Fox's managers who "have been able to buy their way into the title match in which not only hhas Lesnevich been guaranteed $50,000, win, lose or draw, but also will have his taxes on all moneys beyond what he gets from his legitimate Madison Square Garden percentage, paid by those who control Billy Fox."

The magazine article gives the following ratings to the Negro fighters:

HEAVYWEIGHTS: Champion, Joe Louis. Leading contenders, Elmer Ray, third; Jersey Joe Walcott, fifth; Curtis Sheppard, sixth; Lee Q. Murray, ninth; and Jimmy Bivins, eleventh.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS: Leading contenders: Ezzard Charles, first; Billy Fox, second; Archie Moore, third; Booker Beckwith, sixth; and Lloyd Marshall, eighth.

M[illegible] WEIGHTS: Leading conte[illegible] Charley Burley, second; [illegible] A, and Holman Willia[illegible] group B.

WELTERWEIGHTS: Champion, Ray Robinson; leading contenders: Tommy Bell, second; Beau Jack, third; Jackie Wilson, fifth; and Willie Joyce, sixth. 1-5-47

LIGHTWEIGHTS: Leading contenders: tie between Bob Montgomery and Ike Williams for first place; Johnny Bratton, third; and Wesley Mouzon, fourth.

Full House Expected Tonight for Bee Bee-Mandell Fight

Washington D.C. Post

By Tony Neri
Post Reporter

The much criticized rematch between Bee Bee Washington, former Foggy Bottom pride and now of Deanwood, and Jimmy Mandell, Buffalo Italian, takes place tonight t Turner's Arena and, despite journalistic rumblings, another full house is in prospect. 2-12-46

The middleweight scrap is listed for 10 rounds, with the opening preliminary bout set for 8:45 p. m.

The last encounter, held the first week in January, was won by Bee Bee after Mandell received a badly cut eye. It wa sa five-round technical knockout victory. The fight, this corner thought, was very close and the scoring of the two judges bears it out. They had Bee Bee in front by two or three points.

The return engagement was requested by Joe Netro, Mandell's manager, who thinks his fighter would have won had the scrap gone the distance.

Netro said yesterday after Mandell finished his drills as Turner's Arena:

"I don't see why there are objections to a return match. The last fight was close. This should be better. Mandell's eye is in excellent shape. He hasn't fought since that first meeting with Bee Bee. And, incidentally, don't be surprised if my fighter wins. They can quote those long odds on Bee Bee, we don't care because odds don't win fights." 2-12-46

Washington, who also tapered off in an arena workout, was pronounced in his usual good condition. Manager-Trainer Billy Edwards, who doubles as father-confessor and advisor besides his many managerial duties, said that Bee Bee would probably give Mandell a worse licking than in their first fight.

Edwards said: "Although Bee Bee looked better in that fight than he looked against some of those other guys, I wasn't completely satisfied with his performance. He missed a few punches. This time he'll be shooting 'em sharper and to the mark. And he'll win."

BEE BEE WASHINGTON (left) and JIMMY MANDELL

The supporting card will have three six-rounders and two hours. Eddie Kane, former amateur ace, will face Joe Murphy of Harrisburg.; Warren Dean, former Richmond amateur champion, boxes Vernon Brown of Baltimore, and Oscar Wright of Washington will meet Bobby Waters of Harrisburg in the sixes. 2-12-46

Four-rounders will pair Jesse James and Andy Shea, Washington lightweights, and Red Jeter of Washington, and Al Sperling, Baltimore heavyweight.

Negro On Commission

Birmingham News

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 17—Gov. Dewey todayreappointed Dr. Olilan B. Powell, of New York City, to the State Athletic Commission for a full three-year term. Powell is the first Negro ever to serve on the commission, which controls professional boxing and wrestling in New York. Thu. 1-17-46

CHALKY WRIGHT LOSES.

The Call Kansas City Mo

LOS ANGELES.—About 10,000 fans watched Enrique Bolanos, former Mexico City bell-hop, beat out a unanimous 10-round decision over the veteran Chalky Wright here Wednesday night in the Olympic auditorium. Fri 3-1-46

The little Mexican beat Chalky to the punch, keeping him off balance, and then threw right and left hooks to win the decision.

The fight was a crowd-pleaser all the way, with much of the fighting coming in the clinches.

Bivins Beaten By Wolcott

Chicago Defender Sat. Ill. 3-9-46

CLEVELAND — Jimmy Bivens' hopes of meeting the winner of the Joe Louis vs. Billy Conn battle went up in smoke here Monday night, Feb. 25 when Jersey Joe Wolcott, the father of six children, outpointed the local heavyweight.

The 31-year-old Camden, N.J., battler kept Bivins puzzled all evening. He possessed a corking left and a mighty good right. In the seventh, Wolcott put Bivins on the floor for the count of eight.

Negro Heavy Dies Following Match

Birmingham News Alabama

BUFFALO, N. Y., April 4—(P)—Dave Mason, Cleveland Negro heavyweight, died last night in Emergency Hospital. He was victim of a brain hemmorrhage and skull fracture suffered after a bout with Joe Matisi, of Endicott.

Hospital authorities said that Mason, whose condition had been listed as "very critical," succumbed about 24 hours after he had been removed on a stretcher from the fight ring in Memorial Auditorium. The hospital reported that Medical Examiner Paul J. Rutecki was conducting an examination.

Earlier, Eddie Eagan, chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission, said in New York that he was investigating the bout in which the 23-year-old Mason was injured. Thurs 4-4-46

Fighter Overseas Looks Like Another Joe Louis

Atlanta Daily World. Atlanta, Ga 2-16-46

OKINAWA — Technician Fifth Grade Dick Hagan, a well-built, 19-year-old Negro soldier from Detroit is reviving ring memories among GIs on Okinawa of the lush post World War I days when veterans returned from the fighting fronts to smash their way to the top of the prize fight world. Enthusiastic GIs even see in Hagan another Joe Louis.

Dubbed the "Tan Tornado" by Ryukyu-based servicemen, Hagan recently scored a decision over a previously unbeaten opponent to take the island heavyweight championship. His opponent had annexed the Western Pacific crown at the GI Olympics in Manila, and entered the ring an overwhelming favorite.

Ring-wise GIs marvel at the similarity of young Hagan's background to that of Louis. Before he entered the Army the 203-pound Hagan had worked in Chrysler's Detroit war plant which manufactured tanks. Furthermore his stance, style and expressionless face bear close resemblance to the champion. This, the GIs contend, comes about naturally without any effort on Hagan's part to emulate the "Brown Bomber." 2-16-46

Hagan was drafted from Detroit and assigned to an engineering battalion in the European Theater. During off-duty hours the men in his outfit spent plenty of time sparring and punching the bag in an improvised gymn in Southern France. Private Danny Carter, a former pro-boxer from Philadelphia, spotted Hagan and suggested that he enter the amateur tournament which was soon to take place. Only after persuasion from his buddies did he enter his name.

Negro Boxer Killed In Second Round By a Hard Hook Under Heart

The Call Kansas City, Mo. Fri 3-1-46

CHICAGO.—Willie Lee Perry, 21-year-old Negro light-heavyweight, dropped dead in the ring here Tuesday night when he received a hard right hook to the solar plexus during the second round of his scheduled 10-rounder with Howard Schwan, 23-year-old former sailor.

Traumatic hemorrhage in the solar plexus region was the cause of death, announced the examining physician, Dr. Norman L. Bishop, who added that it was accidental. Fri 3-1-46

Alex Bain, president of the Madison A. C., sponsor of the bout, said Perry fell immediately following a hard right under the heart.

Schwan, who had been held by police pending the inquest has been released.

5 Boxers Win Appeal From AAU Ban On Interracial Bouts

Chicago Defender, Ill. 3-9-46

WASHINGTON—Five Negro amateur boxers won the second round of their fight to stop the District of Columbia AAU from barring Negro athletes from competing with whites in AAU sanctioned events. The Court of Appeals reversed the decision of the District Court which had dismissed the suit brought against the AAU by the five boxers.

All but one of the plaintiffs in the suit was a minor and were represented by adults. The one adult is Willie Farrall. The other plaintiffs are Edward W. Banks, Henry D Porter, John James and Robert Elkerson.

The District AAU does not permit Negro boxers in sanctioned events here but does allow Negro trackmen to participate in track meets. The local AAU contends that athletes are not required to participate in championship matches in their home districts to compete in national championship competition.

Howard University's Law School Dean, William Hastie, former judge in the Virgin Islands and later special assistant to the Secretary of War, carried the case to the Appeals Court. The Washington Post, daily newspaper, refused to continue its sponsorship this year of the AAU "battle of Belted" ring tourney as long as Negroes were barred. Sat.

Kentucky Champs Never Fought Here

Negro Titlists Peaks and Brown Captured Crowns Without Bouts

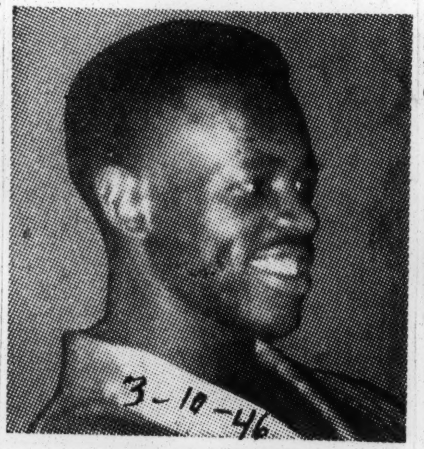
Strange as it may seem, Kentucky has two Negro amateur boxing champions who've never fought in a Kentucky ring.

They're Sammy Brown and Sidney Peaks, both of Charlestown, Ind., who, due to lack of opposition, were awarded state titles in the Golden Gloves Tournament in January without swinging a single punch.

Both, however, proved capable performers by capturing regional championships at Evansville and giving creditable performances, though losing in the first round, in the Chicago Tournament of Champions. In fact, ringsiders generally agreed that Peaks, heavyweight, had carved out a clear-cut advantage over his opponent, Johnny Ourcell of Peorio, Ill.

Brown, who ranks with the more skillful amateur performers in this vicinity, lost by a narrow margin to Sheldon Younkers, rugged Gary, Ind., lightweight, in the Chicago show.

Sammy Brown
Aspires to lightweight title.



Sidney Peak
Seeks A.A.U. heavy crown.

SHIFTY STYLIST

Brown, a shifty, defensive stylist, skiled in the art of blocking blows with his arms, elbows and shoulders and who also packs a potent right-hand punch, accomplished the unexpected on his march to the regional title. He knocked off two former champions, decisioning highly-touted Jackie Redcross, 1943 lightweight title-holder, and Billy Korff, last year's featherweight champion. In proving that he also has stamina and can "take a punch," Brown came back the same night after decisioning Korff to kayo Negro Harold Triggs in the third round after he himself was floored in the first.

His bouts in the regional and tournament of champions are the only Brown has had. His success may be traced to the fact that for six months under the guidance of "Dutch" Reese, former pro boxer who also instructs Peaks, he trained diligently and learned the fundamentals of the game before making his debut.

AMONG ENTRANTS

Both Brown and Peaks are among the early entrants in the Kentucky A.A.U. Tournament, scheduled March 18, 20 and 21, the first two nights at Columbia gym and the final at the Armory.

Entry blanks for the tournament, divisional winners of which are to compete with expenses paid in the National A.A.U. meet at Boston in April, may be obtained at the Recreation Division in Central Park.

RING INJURIES FATAL TO PHILADELPHIAN, 24

PHILADELPHIA, March 4 (AP)—Nat Hines, 24-year-old Negro light heavyweight boxer, died today, fifty-three hours after he was knocked unconscious in a fight with Billy Eck of Allentown, Pa., at the Cambria A. C.

Hines never regained consciousness. He underwent a delicate brain operation three hours after the fight.

Chairman Leon Rains of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission said the operation revealed that Hines had suffered a brain hemorrhage "in a previous fight—maybe two weeks or a month before Friday's fight."

Dr. Ralph Lanciano, athletic commission physician who treated Hines at the ringside, said Hines' injury resulted when Eck felled him with a left hook and he fell to the canvas in the sixth and final round of the bout.

"There was no evidence that Hines was not in good condition before he entered the ring Friday night," Rains said. "He signed a waiver to the effect that he was in good condition and we had no reason to believe otherwise."

Two weeks before Friday night's bout Hines was technically knocked out in a fight with Wally Sears of Minersville, Pa. The referee stopped the fight to keep Hines from being punished further.

Rains said Hines was the third boxer to be fatally injured in Pennsylvania rings in the last fourteen years.

WASHINGTON, March 4 (AP)—Coroner A. Magruder MacDonald today issued a certificate of accidental death in the case of Dixon Walker, 20, University of Maryland boxer.

Walker was knocked down during an intercollegiate boxing bout at Catholic University, Saturday night. MacDonald said death was caused by a cerebral hemorrhage.

NBA Rates Joe Walcott, Archie Moore Top Boxers

Jersey Heavyweight Gets Ranking Under Conn, Mauriello; Moore No. 1 Light-heavy

WASHINGTON.

Jersey Joe Walcott, the latest "Cinderella Man" of boxing, was rated fourth among the heavyweights in the first quarterly ratings of 1946, released here last Monday by the National Boxing Association.

The logical contender for the heavyweight championship is Billy Conn, who is matched to fight Joe Louis, the champion, in Yankee Stadium in New York June 19. Among the outstanding heavyweights only Tami Mauriello of New York, who refused to meet Walcott last month, was rated above him. Jimmy Bivins of Cleveland was placed below Walcott.

Walcott, a New Jersey product, owes his meteoric rise to a smashing victory over Bivins, and a decision over Joe Baksi, of Pennsylvania.

Moore Ranked

In the light heavyweight division, Archie Moore of St. Louis, who is under suspension by the Maryland Boxing Commission, was rated as the logical contender for the title held by Gus Lesnevich of New Jersey. Billy Fox of Philadelphia was rated fourth. Ezzard Charles of Cincinnati and Lloyd Marshall of California were mentioned as outstanding boxers in that division.

In the middleweight division, of which Tony Zale of Indiana is the champion and Rocky Graziano of New York the logical contender, Holman Williams of Detroit and Charley Burley of Pittsburgh were rated fifth and sixth, respectively.

In the lightweight division, Ike Williams of Trenton, N.J., is the recognized NBA champion, and Bob Montgomery of Philadelphia and Enrique Belances of Mexico the logical contenders. Willie Joyce of Gary, Ind., and Chalky Wright of Los Angeles are mentioned among the outstanding boxers.

HENDERSON'S COMMENTS

By DR. EDWIN B. HENDERSON

(The opinions expressed by this columnist do not necessarily reflect the editorial opinion of the Washington Tribune.—The Editor.)

Inconsistent Ruling

The ruling of the judges of the Federal Court of Appeals in remanding the case of our boxers should be read in full to note the deceit and the deception used by the defendants to justify a deliberate pattern of prejudice and race bigotry. Although the NAACP lawyers sought to get judgment in the lower courts which would have decided whether the colored boxers had been deprived of their rights, the AAU denied that in registration of the athletes there was any contract involved except as to the certification of the boys as amateurs. To this Judge Prettyman and the court ruled, this, "is beside the point and is also without merit. Members in good standing whose rights are invaded by an ultra vires act of a committee or organization, are clearly entitled to relief and protection."

To the contention of the AAU that "the controversy was moot" because the Post tournament was over when the suit was filed, the court ruled as follows: "The point is without merit. as the complaint avers a consistent and continuing debarment of plaintiffs (our colored boxers) from all District and open championship athletic competition. Plaintiffs seek permanent relief from the 'sanction' which accomplishes the debarment."

About the "lousiest" argument put forth by the AAU is that although the AAU threatens the blacklisting of sponsors of amateur events by denying sanctions, and boys who take part in interracial events under such sponsors, the AAU's president made an affidavit "that the question as to what competitions registered athletes shall be allowed to participate in is decided by 'those in charge' of the athletic event in question."

Can anything be more ridiculous than such a contention? Mr. Aronoff's committee writes on the back of the sanction that it issues to the sponsors of ahletic meets that it will deny future sanctions and blacklist athletes who compete in interracial meets. Yet it has the nerve to place upon the Washington Post, the Times-Herald, the Colored YMCA, or any sponsor the odium of barring athletes because the[...] certain races, creeds or colors.

The Appeals court in a concluding ruling wrote: "We need not speculate as to what portion of their averments plaintiffs need prove in order to support the relief which they claim. On the record as it now stands, the only questions are whether the complaintant and the affidant show that there are genuine issues of material facts and whether the complaint, if proved as averred, states a claim for which relief can be granted. In our view, the answers to both questions are affirmative."

The battle against wrong and intrenched human injustice is always a long hard struggle. The South enjoyed years of the service of human beings as slaves, but it had to suffer a bloody war and the loss of the luxury of the old South. The fight we are making against segregation and discrimination in our sports and public recreation facilities will be long and hard, but we have right and justice on our side and will eventually win. Just as Hitler and his gang had to eventually succumb so must segregation and Jim Crow in Washington, D.C., and finally in all America. The only alternate is the failure of democracy and Christianity. None but die-hard bigots want this to happen.

NBA Lists Boxing Champs, Says They'll Have to Fight to Keep Titles

Robinson, Graziano, Pep, New Kings?

President Abe J. Greene of the National Boxing Association warned champions in all divisions yesterday that the days of "pickling titles in salt and brine" are over and that henceforth they must be defended on a regular schedule.

"The war is over and so is the excuse champions may have had for delaying their defense of the titles," Greene said. "The essence of all sports is the championship and the right to vie for it, and when champions freeze their titles behind over-the-weight or soft touches, they freeze the genuine boxing interest."

Greene, releasing his quarterly ratings of boxers, said that championship defenses of all titles were in the offing for the next few months.

The principal change in the ratings was the sudden rise in the heavyweight division of Joe Walcott, Camden, N. J., father of five children, who became the fourth ranking man because of his upset triumph over Jimmy Bevins at Cleveland last month.

Champion Joe Louis, Billy Conn and Tami Mauriello ranked ahead of Walcott in the heavyweight division.

"The heavyweight field definitely has narrowed," Greene said. "After Louis and Conn have fought, or even before that time, it should not be difficult to establish a logical first-run competitor for a title chance from Mauriello, Walcott and Lee Oma, the fifth ranking heavyweight."

Greene said in connection with the middleweight title bout between Champion Tony Zale and Rocky Graziano that it would have been better if Graziano first had fought Jake Lamotta.

"However, I am hopeful that this match may be forthcoming," he said.

He listed seven championship fights which have been scheduled in the next three months, headed by the Louis-Conn bout at New York's Yankee Stadium on June 19.

The others are:

Flyweight Champion Jackie Patterson vs. Joe Currran in London in June; N. B. A. Featherweight Champion Sal Bartolo vs. New York and Affiliated States Champion Willie Pep in June; N. B. A. Lightweight Champion Ike Williams vs. Enrique Belanes, April 30; Welterweight Champion Marty Servo vs. Ray Robinson in May; Middleweight Champion Zale and Graziano in July, and Light Heavyweight Champion Gus Lesnevich and Freddie Mills in London in May.

The champion and leading challengers in each division:

Heavyweight—Joe Louis. Contenders Billy Conn, Tami Mauriello, Joe Walcott, Jimmy Bivins, Lee Oma.

Light Heavyweight—Gus Lesnevich. Contenders, Archie Moore, Freddie Mills, Billy Fox, Billy Smith.

Middleweight—Tony Zale. Contenders, Rocky Graziano, George Abrams, Jake Lamotta.

Welterweight—Marty Servo. Contenders, Ray Robinson, Tippy Larkin, Beau Jack and Johnny Greco.

Lightweight—Ike Williams. Contenders, Bob Montgomery, Enrique Belanes.

Featherweight—Sal Bartolo. Contenders, Willie Pep and Phil Terranova.

Bantamweight—Manuel Ortiz. No logical contenders listed.

Flyweight — Jackie Patterson Contenders, Dado Marino, Joe Curran and Terrry Allen.

Several years ago we spotted a skinny little Negro featherweight in a Garden prelim, name of Sandy Saddler, and he gave us the same kind of feeling we had when Ray Robinson was just coming up. Sandy displayed devastating power of the sharp-shooting variety, you know, he picked the opening and bang! And even in that first Garden prelim, Saddler owned the kind of coolness and confidence that one sees only in the real artists of the game. Since that night, he's been coming along carefully, feeling his oats and getting his full of experience. Evidently he's being handled by some people who well understand the wisdom of not rushing the richly-talented youngster. All this is by way of telling you that Saddler gets his first serious test against Phil Terranova on July 22 in Detroit. It'll be interesting to see how he fares against the aggressive veteran from the Bronx.

Anyway, remember the name . . . Sandy Saddler. He's a Ray Robinson in the making.

Washington Post Withdraws Its Support To Anti-Negro District AAU

By AL SWEENEY

WASHINGTON (ANP)—The reactionary District of Columbia chapter of the Amateur Athletic union took a terrific jolt this week as the Washington Post, liberal morning daily, announced on its sports pages that they were dropping the sponsorship of the District AAU boxing tournament "in the interest of tolerance."

Although Dan Ferris, national secretary of the AAU, has told the Washington AAU that barring of Negroes from participation in AAU events was an illegal use of its sanctioning power, the local body has steadfastly refused to admit Negro boxers in the local Golden Gloves tourney sponsored by the Times-Herald newspaper and the "Battle of Belts" tourney that was formerly backed by the Washington Post.

On Dec. 27 Dr. Edwin B. Henderson, chairman of the committee on recreation for the NAACP in the District of Columbia, wrote Eugene Meyer, liberal editor of the Washington Post, pointing out that "mixed" boxing wasn't prohibited by law in Washington and professional mixed boxing has been going for years in Washington without any "incidents." He asked that the Post prevail upon the local AAU "not to restrict events solely to white boys."

ON SUNDAY, JAN. 6, the Washington Post, carried the following double column announcement on its sports pages:

"For two years, the Washington Post has sponsored the District of Columbia amateur boxing championship tournament known as the Battle of Belts. There have been repeated requests that entries of colored amateurs be accepted for the tournament.

"The District of Columbia Amateur Athletic union has consistently refused to permit colored boys to compete. It has maintained that position arbitrarily despite the fact that the National AAU, of which it is a member, has set forth that all amateur athletes are eligible for competition without regard to race or color.

"Bouts between colored and white fighters in the professional ring are sanctioned by the District Boxing commission, and have been without so-called 'incidents.' The District AAU, however, chooses to bar colored amateur championships because of what it chooses to call its duty to 'Washington's social philosophy.'

"The Washington Post also finds itself with a choice. In the interest of tolerance, it chooses to withdraw from the sponsorship of the AAU boxing tournament, and herewith does."

Mrs. Agnes Meyer, wife of the publisher of the Post, is a noted liberal and heads up the committee for the Willkie award that honors the outstanding Negro journalist.

The district chapter of the NAACP, while hailing the Post's stand, is currently throwing picket lines around the Golden Gloves tournament sponsored by the Times-Herald.

Knocks His Man Cold But Loses The Fight

BALTIMORE — Curtis "Hatchetman" Sheppard, 186, Philadelphia, knocked O'Dell Riley of Detroit cold in the closing seconds of the tenth and last round but the bell rang ending the fight after Riley had been on the floor three seconds.

Although still out when dragged to his corner by his seconds, Riley won the scrap on points. Referee Eddie Leonard ruled that Riley could not be counted out because the fight ended seven seconds before he could count 10.

The referee and both judges said Riley was winner on points by the wide margin he had built up in the early rounds.

Negro Boxers Rated High By Ring Mag

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Negro boxers came in for top honors in the 1945 ratings by Ring magazine, nationally known boxers' publication, in four divisions.

With Champion Joe Louis leading the heavyweights, Jimmy Bivins, Cleveland, was rated as number two contender. Number four place went to Elmer Ray, Tampa, Fla., and Jersey Joe Wolcott was rated in eighth place. In the light heavyweight class, Archie Moore, St. Louis, is Champion Gus Lesnevich's number one challenger, with Lloyd Marshall, Sacramento, Calif., rated behind him. Moore had 14 starts and registered 12 triumphs in 1945. Billy Fox, Philadelphia, and Nate Bolden, Chicago, were rated seventh and eighth, respectively in the light-heavyweight division.

HOLMAN WILLIAMS, Chicago, and Charley Burley, Pittsburgh, were placed as number two and three contenders for the middleweight title. Welterweight champion Red Cochrane drew Ray (Sugar) Robinson, New York, as his number one challenger. During 1945, Robinson scored seven victories and one draw in eight starts. Beau Jack, Augusta, Ga., and Tommy Bell, Cleveland, were rated seventh and eighth in the same class.

With the lightweight international title declared open by the magazine, Chalky Wright was given the top spot in that division by a number-one rating. Wright won six of his eight contests, lost one and the other was voted "a no contest." Willie Joyce, Gary, Ind., was rated number three; Bob Montgomery, Philadelphia, number four; Ike Williams, Trenton, N. J., number five and Freddie Dawson, Chicago, number nine.

Jackie Wilson, Pittsburgh, was listed last among the featherweights.

Gunboat Jack

Editor Constitution: During the twenties there was a Negro lightweight who came close enough to the top that I remembered his name years later when I ran across it in newspapers in South India. He is Gunboat Jack. Last March I met him in Rajahmundry, where he was doing a daredevil motorcycle act. Incidentally, at 46, he's still booking fights.

Jack came out to Calcutta with a show in 1925 and hasn't been back to the States since, although he has been all through Europe, North and East Africa, the Middle East, India, Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, a good many of the South Sea islands and up and down the China coast—in show business and boxing.

Jack has lost track of his folks back home and I'd very much like to get in touch with them. Jack's real name is James Wilson Colzie and he was born in Florida. His mother may be living in or near Atlanta. Her name is or was Mrs. Julia Gilbert and she had been in Montezuma, Ga. He has a sister, Mrs. Jennie Lee Davis, also perhaps in Atlanta.

Anybody who is interested in getting in touch with him can reach Jack by addressing him as "Gunboat Jack," care Thomas Cook, Madras, India.

ROBERT S. OBERLY,
Lutheran Mission, South India

In this corner

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Two Jack Johnson Diehards Reminisce a Bit

By Bill Mardo

What with Billy Conn and Joe Louis entering the more serious phase of their training grind for the June 19 classic, talk in our office yesterday got around to Jack Johnson, and you know, there was never a more ardent Johnson rooter than cartoonist Freddie Ellies.

Of course the visit of Art Shields to the sports department was what really started the Johnson bandwagon rolling anew—for the Daily's famous labor reporter is quite a fight fan himself. From away back.

Art happened to remark that he'd recently walked by the 42d Street flea circus where Jack Johnson makes his yearly stop to answer all the questions that a lot of old-timers and awed youngsters care to shoot at him. Well, one thing led to another, as it always will, and before long Shields was reminiscing to us of that day in Ohio, when as a kid, a group of excited spectators and he stood in front of the big bulletin board and followed the round-by-round progress of the Johnson-Jeffries mixup.

JACK JOHNSON

Ellis looked up from his drawing board, took a deep breath and let 'er roll: "Yeah, ol' Jack just held Jeffries up for a good few rounds before knocking his head off." Wed. 4-10-46

The writer innocently inquired: "Wasn't Jeff an old man when he fought Johnson?"

Ellis looked at us annoyedly and grunted: "Those two would never've belonged in the same ring, even if they'd fought when Jeffries was at his peak. You gotta remember that when Jeff was champ he wanted no part of Johnson. Jack used to chase Jim all over the country trying to get a fight with him, but the boilermaker always said nix. So Johnson did the next best thing and flattened Jeffries' younger brother. But even that couldn't convince Jeff he ought to risk the title against Johnson. All he did was say to Johnson: 'I see where you knocked out my kid brother the other night.' And Johnson whispered right back into Jeff's ear: 'Uh-huh. And I can do the same to you any time.'"

Well, it wasn't until many years later that Johnson had an opportunity to come through on that remark. The great Negro champion had already been king for many years when old Jim Jeffries, fat and baldish, was yanked out of retirement to try and succeed where other "white hopes" had failed. Art Shields reminded us at this point that Jack London who, despite his greatness, had a lot of chauvinism in his makeup, played a leading role in building up old Jeffries as the man to bring the heavyweight crown back to the white race. "As a matter of fact, a lot of so-called medical minds and university teachers began peddling the forerunner of Hitler's Aryan ideas. They said that because Johnson was a Negro he lacked the heart and stamina to stand up before Jeffries for 45 rounds. A terrible amount of racism permeated the atmosphere around that bout. And, of course, when Johnson met Jeff that July night in 1910 and belted him to sleep along about the 15th round under the Reno skies, those same race theorists turned right around and said that Johnson's triumph proved that Negroes were 'built differently.'"

It all sounds so familiar, doesn't it? The last time such an idea was peddled during a heavyweight title bout, the contender himself was the chief proponent of such talk. And you all remember how Joe Louis settled that issue, don't you?

Now it wouldn't be fair to Mister Fred Ellis if he wasn't allowed to get in a parting shot in regard to the outcome of a mythical Louis-Johnson bout. "I think Jack Johnson was the greatest heavyweight who ever lived. Louis couldn't have won such a fight because Johnson was craftier and hit harder. And there was never a finer defensive machine than old Jack. My, how he could pick off those punches in mid-air." Wed. 4-10-46

So much for the shop talk. This rosy-cheeked youngster, never having seen Jack Johnson, can't argue with any real authority on the question of Joe Louis versus "Little Arthur."

Let's all admit it would've been one whopper of a fight—and get on to the business of looking forward to King Joe's title defense against rapid William Conn.

In this corner

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

A Reader From L.A. Rushes To Jeff's Defense

By Bill Mardo

This corner recorded a conversation recently between Fred Ellis and Art Shields, wherein our two colleagues recalled the Johnson-Jeffries bout and reminisced at length the fist-fighting abilities of the former Negro heavyweight champ. It seems the column stirred up a hornet's nest in California, which happens to be Jim Jeffries' habitat. From out Los Angeles way came the following: Thurs 4-25-46

"Dear Mr. Mardo:

"Just read your column on 'Two Jack Johnson Fans Do a Bit of Reminiscing.' Those two Jack Johnson fans might do well to look up the record before making the statement that Johnson chased Jeffries all over the country trying to get a fight with him.

"In 1901 an unknown by the name of Jack Johnson was knocked out by Joe Choyinski. In 1902 Johnson fought 15 battles, none of them of any particular importance. Jeffries at this time was at the peak of his career—Johnson didn't belong in the same ring with Jeff. In 1905 Johnson lost a 20-round decision to Marvin Hart at the Yosemite Athletic Club in San Francisco. By all that's reasonable, what right did Johnson have to a match with Jeffries for the title if he couldn't beat Marvin Hart?

"Jeffries retired in 1905 after passing the title to Hart, who beat Jack Root by a knockout in 12 rounds. Johnson tried for a match with Hart, but was refused because Hart had already beaten him. It was not until 1907 that Johnson attained his fighting perfection. On Dec. 26, 1908, he knocked out Tommy Burns in Sydney, Australia, in 14 rounds for the title. Your column states 'the great Negro champion had already been king for many, many years when old Jim Jeffries . . .' Johnson beat Jeffries on July 4, 1910, so he had been champion just a year and a half.

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"Yours for accuracy,

"A. M. LEVEY."

Thurs 4-25-46

Tell you what we'll do, Mister Levey. Like that corner Rocky Graziano never goes to, we're "neutral" on this issue of Johnson versus Jeffries. But we do think it would make an interesting story if Jack Johnson himself were to answer some of the remarks you make. And so we're gonna pay "Little Arthur" a visit at the Hubert Museum on 42d St. tomorrow and let him take up the points you cover. How's that? And if you like, you can hike over to Jim Jeffries' place in your neck of the woods and get his side of the story.

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Each person has to be judged on his own merits, and it's a serious error, indeed, Mr. Levey, to flatly call Johnson a disgrace to his people and profession without going any deeper into the facts and remembering the social-political atmosphere that prevailed when a Negro first became heavyweight champion of the world. As a matter of fact, Art Shields can tell you about the IWWers he's spoken to who spent time in prison with Johnson when the Negro fighter was jailed on a phony white slavery charge—and those ex-Wobblies swore by Johnson as a man and friend.

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Daily Worker

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New York, N.Y.

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In this corner

Daily Worker

Two Jack Johnson Diehards Reminisce a Bit

New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

What with Billy Conn and Joe Louis entering the more serious phase of their training grind for the June 19 classic, talk in our office yesterday got around to Jack Johnson, and you know, there was never a more ardent Johnson rooter than cartoonist Freddie Ellies.

Of course the visit of Art Shields to the sports department was what really started the Johnson bandwagon rolling anew—for the Daily's famous labor reporter is quite a fight fan himself. From away back.

Art happened to remark that he'd recently walked by the 42d Street flea circus where Jack Johnson makes his yearly stop to answer all the questions that a lot of old-timers and awed youngsters care to shoot at him. Well, one thing led to another, as it always will, and before long Shields was reminiscing to us of that day in Ohio, when as a kid, a group of excited spectators and he stood in front of the big bulletin board and followed the round-by-round progress of the Johnson-Jeffries mixup.

JACK JOHNSON

Ellis looked up from his drawing board, took a deep breath and let 'er roll: "Yeah, ol' Jack just held Jeffries up for a good few rounds before knocking his head off." Wed. 4-10-46

The writer innocently inquired: "Wasn't Jeff an old man when he fought Johnson?"

Ellis looked at us annoyedly and grunted: "Those two would never've belonged in the same ring, even if they'd fought when Jeffries was at his peak. You gotta remember that when Jeff was champ he wanted no part of Johnson. Jack used to chase Jim all over the country trying to get a fight with him, but the boilermaker always said nix. So Johnson did the next best thing and flattened Jeffries' younger brother. But even that couldn't convince Jeff he ought to risk the title against Johnson. All he did was say to Johnson: 'I see where you knocked out my kid brother the other night.' And Johnson whispered right back into Jeff's ear: 'Uh-huh. And I can do the same to you any time.'"

Well, it wasn't until many years later that Johnson had an opportunity to come through on that remark. The great Negro champion had already been king for many years when old Jim Jeffries, fat and baldish, was yanked out of retirement to try and succeed where other "white hopes" had failed. Art Shields reminded us at this point that Jack London who, despite his greatness, had a lot of chauvinism in his makeup, played a leading role in building up old Jeffries as the man to bring the heavyweight crown back to the white race. "As a matter of fact, a lot of so-called medical minds and university teachers began peddling the forerunner of Hitler's Aryan ideas. They said that because Johnson was a Negro he lacked the heart and stamina to stand up before Jeffries for 45 rounds. A terrible amount of racism permeated the atmosphere around that bout. And, of course, when Johnson met Jeff that July night in 1910 and belted him to sleep along about the 15th round under the Reno skies, those same race theorists turned right around and said that Johnson's triumph proved that Negroes were 'built differently.'"

It all sounds so familiar, doesn't it? The last time such an idea was peddled during a heavyweight title bout, the contender himself was the chief proponent of such talk. And you all remember how Joe Louis settled that issue, don't you?

Now it wouldn't be fair to Mister Fred Ellis if he wasn't allowed to get in a parting shot in regard to the outcome of a mythical Louis-Johnson bout. "I think Jack Johnson was the greatest heavyweight who ever lived. Louis couldn't have won such a fight because Johnson was craftier and hit harder. And there was never a finer defensive machine than old Jack. My, how he could pick off those punches in mid-air." Wed. 4-10-46

So much for the shop talk. This rosy-cheeked youngster, never having seen Jack Johnson, can't argue with any real authority on the question of Joe Louis versus "Little Arthur."

Let's all admit it would've been one whopper of a fight—and get on to the business of looking forward to King Joe's title defense against rapid William Conn.

In this corner

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

A Reader From L.A. Rushes To Jeff's Defense

By Bill Mardo

This corner recorded a conversation recently between Fred Ellis and Art Shields, wherein our two colleagues recalled the Johnson-Jeffries bout and reminisced at length the fist-fighting abilities of the former Negro heavyweight champ. It seems the column stirred up a hornet's nest in California, which happens to be Jim Jeffries' habitat. From out Los Angeles way came the following: Thurs 4-25-46

"Dear Mr. Mardo:

"Just read your column on 'Two Jack Johnson Fans Do a Bit of Reminiscing.' Those two Jack Johnson fans might do well to look up the record before making the statement that Johnson chased Jeffries all over the country trying to get a fight with him.

"In 1901 an unknown by the name of Jack Johnson was knocked out by Joe Choyinski. In 1902 Johnson fought 15 battles, none of them of any particular importance. Jeffries at this time was at the peak of his career—Johnson didn't belong in the same ring with Jeff. In 1905 Johnson lost a 20-round decision to Marvin Hart at the Yosemite Athletic Club in San Francisco. By all that's reasonable, what right did Johnson have to a match with Jeffries for the title if he couldn't beat Marvin Hart?

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The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

1-27-46

Pilot Boosts Hoosman As Next Champion

Washington Post

If one can take the words of Jimmy Johnston literally, Al Hoosman, New York Negro, who meets Heavyweight Colian Chaney, the Indiana colored boy, tomorrow night at Turner's Arena, is the coming world's heavyweight champion.

Of course, Johnston may be prejudiced. He happens to be Hoosman's manager.

Sunday

"Why, this Hoosman has one of the best lefts I ever seen in a heavyweight," the former "Boy Bandit" Johnston was saying. He's a big, loose-jointed boy who steps around pretty good. I'll stick him in there tmorrow with either Louis or Conn." (As who wouldn't for that kind of money.) 3-3-46

The Hoosman-Chaney bout is scheduled for 10 rounds—or less. Despite the fact that Chaney may be more than willing to make a fight of it, Hoosman, the record shows, possesses too much punching power for his opponent.

Chaney Unmoved

Chaney, on the other hand, is is confident that he will give Hoosman a good fight. He points to his previous appearances here when he licked Clint Conway, Buddy Thomas and Jimmy Bell. He says little, however, of his loss to Dixie Oliver.

D. C.

Hoosman is one of the tallest men in the ring today, standing 6 feet 5 in his stocking feet. Add 200 pounds to his frame and Hoosman turns out to be quite a big man. Chaney, no dwarf himself, is 5 feet 11, and weighs 192.

The betting, quite naturally, favors Hoosman, who only recently whipped Lee Savold very decisively in Madison Square Garden. Fight-time odds may soar to 4 to 1, Hoosman.

Cranford vs. Duncan

In the semiwindup, of six rounds, Heavyweight Jackie Cranford, good-looking former coast guardsman, engages Billy Duncan, recent Army dischargee. Cranford has won six straight bouts, with his most important victory over Al Blake. Wash. D.C.

The local Cranford was so impressive in the Blake bout that Chris Dundee, who was handling him that night, was offered $10,000 for his contract by Damon Runyon. (Well, anyway, that's Dundee's story).

Sunday

Herbie Jones, the fighting schoolboy, mixes with Gene Davis in a featherweight six-rounder and Flat Top Cummings, Sam Sobel's meal ticket, meets Arthur Betheat in a middleweight six. A four pits Keith Goolsby against Billy Danker. The bout will mark the pro debut of Goolsby, who was knocked out very coldly by Cliff Hart in the 147-pound AAU finals this month.

AL HOOSMAN

Hoosman gets the best of Louis in 2-round workout

Tribune

POMPTON LAKES, N. J. — Al Hoosman, Los Angeles heavyweight owned and operated by the late Jimmy Johnston, made world's heavyweight champion Joe Louis look like a schoolboy in a two-round workout last Tuesday, according to reports. Sat 6-1-46

In the first heat, Hoosman jabbed and hooked Louis to a fare-ye-well, and then added insult to these injuries by making the champ miss most of his shots. Customarily Hoosman only boxes a round with Louis, so he started to climb out of the ring but was called back by trainer Manny Seaman, who shouted, "Al, we want to box another round with you". Los Angeles, Calif.

"I'll go on later", Hoosman answered. Louis and Seaman insisted on "now", so Hoosman climbed back in mumbling that his was a terrible fate. 6-1-46

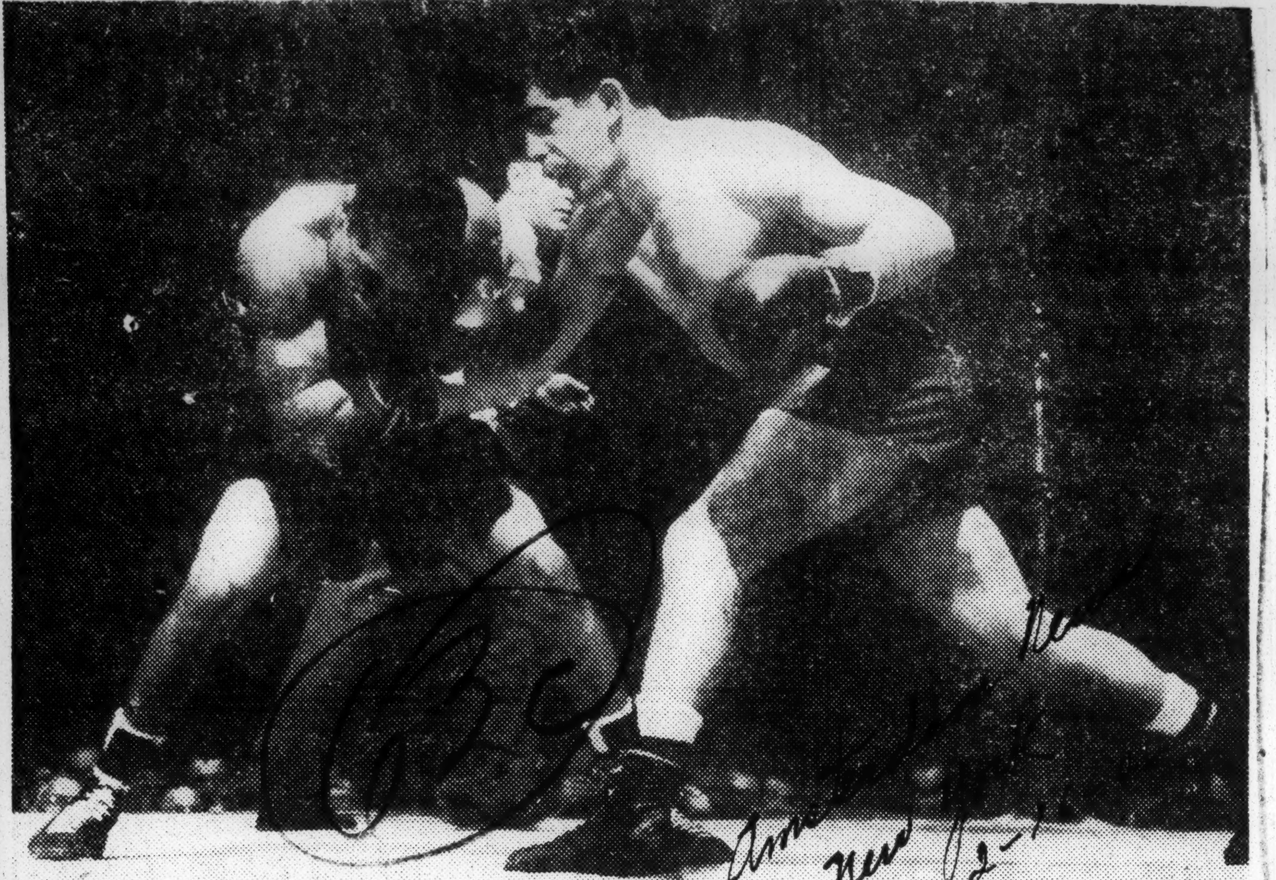
When they started back up, the champ told Hoosman that he had taken the first round, to which Hoosman replied, "I hate to think what's going to happen to me now". However, he more than held his own again and at the end of the round said "Thanks, Joe".

The Afro-American

Hoosman Pilot

Sat. 11-16-46

NEW YORK—Al Hoosman, sparring partner for Joe Louis when the champ was training for the second Billy Conn fight, last week signed with Bill Daly, white fight manager who handles Freddy Schott, Le Savold and Pat Comiskey, all white Baltimore, Md.



BEAU BLOCKS A RIGHT: Beau Jack, former lightweight champion (left) blocks a right to the stomach by Johnny Greco, of Montreal, Canada, in the third round of their feature 10-round bout at Madison Square Garden. The bout ended in a draw. It was a moral victory for Greco who held his opponent to the first draw decision rendered since the new point scoring system went into effect in New York State. Referee Ruby Goldstein gave five rounds to Beau Jack, three to Greco and called two even. The final verdict gave five rounds to each fighter and awarded five points to each.—Photo by H. Scharfman.

Beau Jack Due For A Long Rest After Greco Fiasco

Beau Jack and Johnny Greco have been rematched for a bout in the Garden on March 22.

By JOE BOSTIC

A long rest for Beau Jack appeared a certainty following his dismal showing Friday night at Madison Square Garden when a split decision saved him from the humiliation of a defeat at the hands of Johnny Greco. After ten in and out heats he was lucky to escape with a draw decision, the first to be handed down in our town since the inauguration of the Eagan point scoring system.

For five rounds Friday night the Greco-Jack scramble was as exciting a donnybrook as we've seen in ages. As we saw it Greco snagged the opening heat not because he was necessarily the "boss" of the ring but simply because he got home the more clean and effective punches. However, Beau came on to take the second by a fairly safe margin as his uppercuts found their mark plenty often on the Canadian boy whose plan was to crowd the Beau and thereby neutralize the effectiveness of Jack's swinging attacks.

Greco grabbed off the third canto by again outscoring the ex-lightweight king. It was in this round that the tell tale story of Jack's drawn, over trained condition first showed itself. While the Georgia boy was in there belting with his customary fury, it was evident to all that the zing which usually characterizes his work was missing. Even more revealing of his stale condition was the fact that here at the end of three action packed heats he was not perspiring. Generous perspiration is always the unmistakeable sign of a healthy, well conditioned athlete. Obviously the youngster had left his fight in the ring at Stillman's gym or along the paths around the reservoir in Central Park, where he does much of his roadwork. The terrific toll of training for three fights within a ten week period was showing.

Came the fourth round and Jack spurted near the end to put the frame in his credit column. He refused to let Greco succeed in crowding him to the ropes to rough and belabor him. By moving deftly and punching on the move he outscored the boy from North of the border.

The fifth turned out to be Beau's field day. He did everything but make Johnny run the gauntlet in this one. We doubt if Johnny ever had seen (or will see again) quite that many fists within three minutes. Early in the round, Jack rammed home seventeen jabs to John's kisser with nary a return. When the boys went to the corners at the close of the round it looked like the 13-5 odds layers were about to move towards the pay window.

With the opening of the sixth the awful truth became apparent, viz: that Jack was completely pooped out after that big effort in the fifth stanza. For the first time since he has been a garden main eventer, the packed-to-the-rafters crowd saw Beau BACK UP. This was something that all of us thought he didn't know how to do. Greco took the round simply because he was less fatigued than Beau and evened the round score on our card.

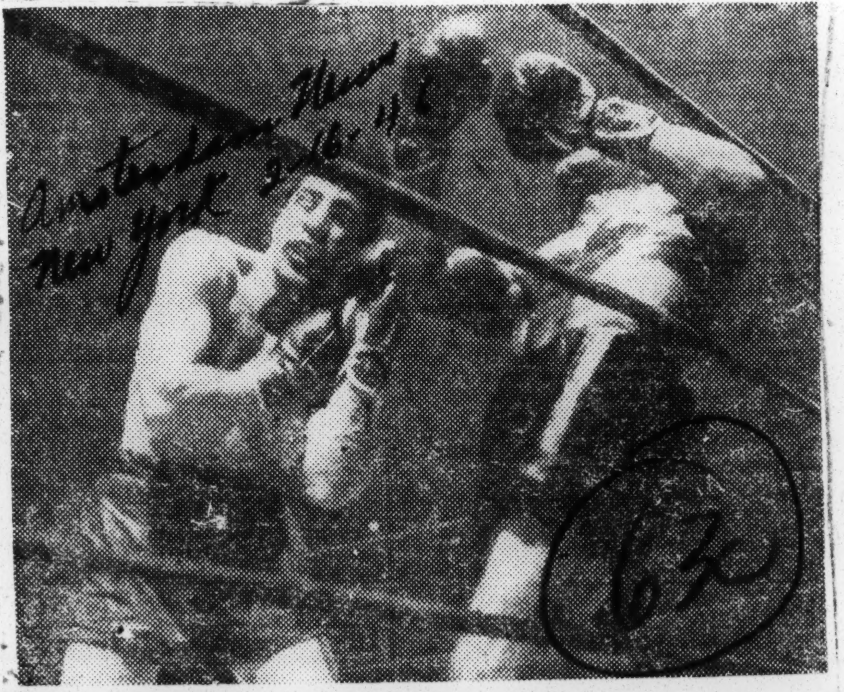
Jack's tremendous heart earned him the seventh, but Johnny copped the eighth to tie it up again.

There was absolutely nothing to choose in the ninth.

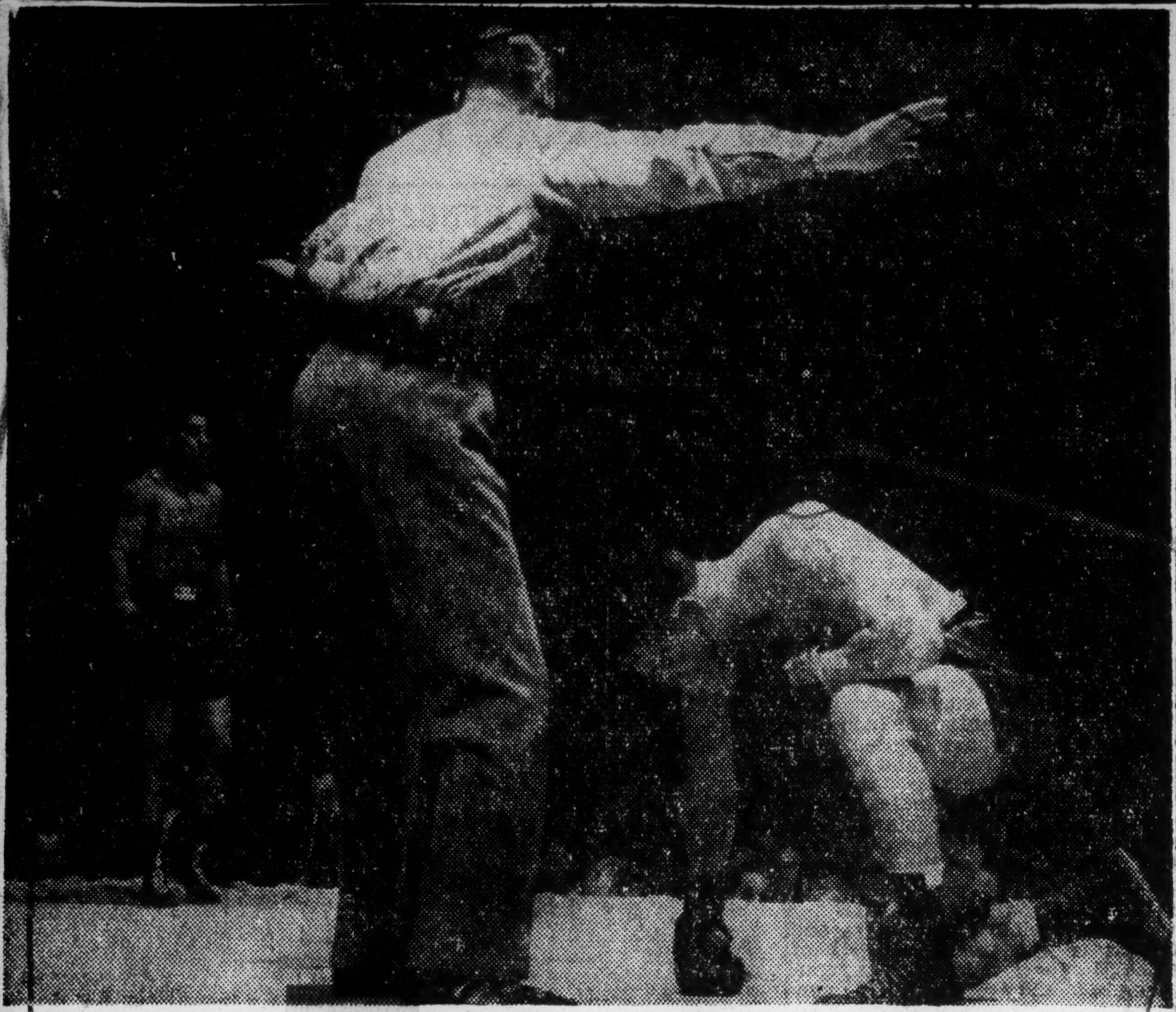
It was Greco by a good margin in the case canto and that finish earned the Canadian youngster whatever edge there was between the boys. Thus you see our score card tabbed it 5-4-1 Greco. This was also the verdict of Judge Frank Forbes.

The other judge, Marty Monroe split his card finer than a frog's hair to arrive at his 5-5 verdict. Referee Ruby Goldstein found in favor of Jack 5-3-2. Which just goes to show you that the same fight doesn't always look the same way to everybody. And there were 18,941 patrons who got up a gaudy record breaking $148,152 "gate" for little men.

A draw was a good decision because the fight was actually too close to drop a "loss" in either boy's record. But, at $20 a copy—pee—ew-w-w-w! We'd still like to see them rematched with Jack in shape.



GRECO WINCES: Johnny Greco, Montreal, Canada, welterweight (left) holds his hands to his face to ward off a blow by Beau Jack, former lightweight champion in the first round of their feature 10-round bout at Madison Square Garden. Greco won a moral victory by holding the Beau to a draw, the first draw decision since the new point scoring system went into effect in New York State.
—Photo by H. Scharfman.



DOWN HE GOES—Morris Reif, Brooklyn battler, makes a gallant effort to regain his feet after being floored by Beau Jack in Madison Square Garden bout last Friday. Referee Arthur Donovan tolls the fateful ten over him, and Jack wins his second bout since coming out of the Army.—International News Photo.

Beau Jack, Archie Moore Get Boost In NBA Boxing List

Baltimore, Md. Afro-American

NEW YORK.—Although he has fought but once as a legitimate welterweight, Beau Jack, former lightweight champion, has been elevated to a contending position in the 145-pound division in the new National Boxing Association ratings, released this week.

The Jack, winner over Morris Reif in his first venture into the heavier division, has been classed as one of the "outstanding welterweights" in the NBA list.

Archie Moore, hard-hitting St. Louis light-heavyweight, was moved up to the No. 1 challenger's spot in that division, just below Champion Gus Lesnevich, white.

Jimmy Bivins of Cleveland is a logical contender to Joe Louis's heavyweight title; Elmer Ray, Hastings, Fla., and Jersey Joe Walcott, Merchantville, N.J., are "outstanding." 1-26-46

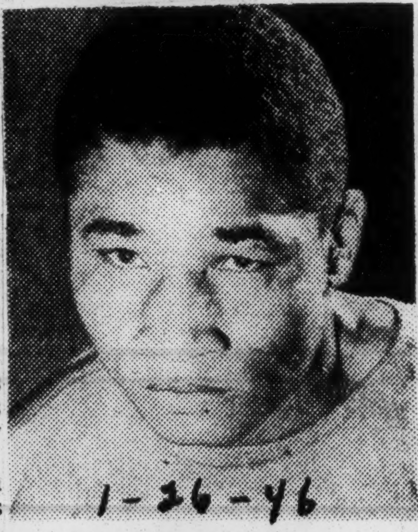
Following Moore among the light-heavies are: Lloyd Marshall, Los Angeles; Billy Fox, Philadelphia; Jack Johnson, Australia; Ezzard Charles, Columbus, Ohio, and Billy Grant, Orange, N.J., in that order.

Holman Williams, Chicago; Charley Burley, Pittsburgh; Bee Bee Washington, Washington, D.C., and Tiger Wade, Oakland, Calif., are rated well with the middleweights.

Ray Robinson, New York City, is the "logical contender" for the welterweight crown, with Tommy Bell, Youngstown, O.; Cecil Hudson, Los Angeles, and Billy Arnold in close pursuit.

Ike Williams, Trenton, and Bob Montgomery, Philadelphia, top the lightweights. Third among "contenders" is Chalky Wright, Los Angeles, with Willie Joyce, Gary, Ind., next. Also rated high up are Freddy Dawson, Chicago; Wesley Mouzon, Philadelphia, and Bernard Decusen, New Orleans.

The abandonment of the featherweight division by Chalky Wright leaves only Jimmy McAllister of Baltimore as a contender in that class.



1-26-46

BEAU JACK

Beau Jack Too Tough For Reif

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

NEW YORK (NNPA) — Beau Jack, former lightweight champion, knocked out Morris Reif, Brooklyn welterweight, in a scheduled ten-round bout inaugurating the year's boxing program at Madison Square Garden before 14,871 fans.

The bout ended in the fourth round. Jack weighed 143½; Reif, 146½.

The attendance contributed to a gross gate of $73,280. The referee was Arthur Donovan. The judges were John Potter and Frank Forbes. 1-12-45

Winding up a bruising brawl that had the crowd howling from bell to bell, the former lightweight champion doubled his Brooklyn rival up with a smashing right to the body midway of the fourth round, then brought up another right to the chin and Reif was counted out at two minutes, one second of the heat.

Bringing only his big guns into action—with each punch threatening to tear Reif's head off—the one-time shoe-shine boy from Augusta, Ga., dropped Morris for a two-count in the first round, had him reeling in the second and staggered him in the third before knocking the roof in. 1-12-45

Making his second start since coming out of the Army, Bouncing Beau had a new script—a slugging, "Sunday punch" kind of action with every shot instead of his usual buzz-saw tactics which slowed his opponents down by more or less easy stages.

Only in the third when Reif switched what attack he could muster and began to tee off to the Beau's tummy did Jack run into any difficulty. Midway through that heat Morris fired a left hook that practically sank out of sight in Jack's midsection, and for half a minute the Georgia slowed to a walk. Before the round was over he was back in there with his blockbusters again and it was obvious the party was just about over.

BEAU JACK CHOICE TO DEFEAT GRECO

Georgian 5-12 Favorite Over Canadian in Main Bout at the Garden Tonight

RECORD 'GATE' EXPECTED

New York Times

Crowd of 19,000 and Receipts of $140,000 Would Set Mark for the Lighter Classes

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Beau Jack will be a party to a precedent-smashing occurrence tonight when he meets Johnny Greco of Montreal in the ten-round star bout at Madison Square Garden. For the unlettered former bootblack from Augusta, Ga., is expected to cut up a gate of more than $140,000 with his Canadian rival, a gate that will mark the greatest wad of revenue ever attracted into the Garden box-offices by boxers other than heavyweights. 2-8-46

Only twice has the take gone over the figure Jack and Greco are expected to pull tonight, but on each occasion the mark was made by heavyweights. The high for "little" fighters was established on March 17, 1944, when the same Beaucoup Jack drew $132,823 in a joust with Al Davis.

There is no explaining the great interest in tonight's fray except that boxing fans like to see Beau Jack in action. He already has been in sixteen main bouts in the Garden and custom has not staled him to the fight public. On the contrary, his name seems to have taken on a magical property, and it seems that all Mike Jacobs has to do to insure a full house at the Garden any Friday night is to throw the Beau in there with a miniature schnauzer.

Carries Heavy Punch

At any rate, 19,000 fans are going to be packed in the Garden tonight, at $20 tops, but they're not going to see Jack in there with any schnauzer. They're going to se ehim trade wallops with a sturdy campaigner who, when he is of the mind, can make things interesting for anybody within his weight range. And he'll have the weight edge over the Beau tonight, since he plans to come in at 145 pounds as against 143 for Jack.

Greco is one of the hardest punchers in the welterweight division, and his right hand has enough power in it to drop anyone he catches squarely. Proof of his hitting ability is the fact that he put the durable Bobby Ruffin on the floor in two of their three clashes, and Ruffin isn't a fighter that everybody goes around knocking down. As a matter of fact Boby, who won, lost, and drew with Greco in three fights, has a victory over Beau Jack to his credit, a fact that may bolster the confidence of those who like Greco's chances on the short end of the 5-to-12 betting odds.

Takes Some, Gives a Lot

Jack, as most fight followers know, has nothing distinctive about him from the artistic or even artisan standpoint. All he does is go in there and throw punches, at the same time showing a complete lack of regard for whatever punches may come his way. This latter quality has served to discourage Jack's opponents almost as much as have his ceaseless flurries of windmill wallops. The supporting card will consist of four six-rounders and one four.

For purposes of the record, the high-figure standards at the Garden are as follows: Jack Delaney and Jimmy Maloney, 1927, $201,613; Joe Louis and Buddy Baer, 1942, $189,700. 2-8-46

Jack has lost only two main bouts in the Garden, one to Ruffin and two to Bob Montgomery. The last named took the lightweight championship of the world away from the Georgia boy. Montgomery, recently out of the Army, was scheduled to defend his crown against Ike Williams in the Garden on March 22, but a postponement of the bout to May 17 was announced yesterday.

Beau Jack Batters Greco for Decision

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution

NEW YORK, June 1—(AP)—Looking more like the windmill walloper he used to be and less like the Fancy Dan he tried to become lately without much luck, former Lightweight Champion Beau Jack punched out a ten-round decision over Johnny Greco, of Montreal, Friday night in Madison Square Garden. Jack weighed 141 1-2; Greco 146.

Throwing punches from known angles—and inventing a few brand-new ones of his own—the one-time Augusta, Ga., shoeshine boy clobbered the Canadian all over the ring, opened a scratch over his right eye, had his nose and mouth bleeding and swollen and won about as he pleased.

At the same time, Greco made his fight on a pattern that gave you the idea he thought the little Negro was a distant relative of the headless horsemen because only on few and far between occasions did he level his sights and punches on Beau Jack's chin and face, preferring instead to peg away at the body and arms.

The decision was unanimous. A crowd of 11,407 chipped in to a gross gate of $66,922 to see the return match.

Beau Jack Wins Over Johnny Greco

Houston Texas

NEW YORK — (ANP) — A 10-round decision over Johnny Greco, Montreal, was scored here Friday night by Beau Jack, former lightweight champion before 11,407 fans at Madison Square Garden. Scoring by the referee and judges indicated that Beau's triumph was unanimous.

Jack weighed 141½ pounds and Greco 146. Public interest in the two fighters is said to have been caused by the draw the two fought in February. The gate grossed around $66,922, officials estimated.

In this corner

Daily Worker
New York

Beau Should Win Tonite, Maybe by Kayo

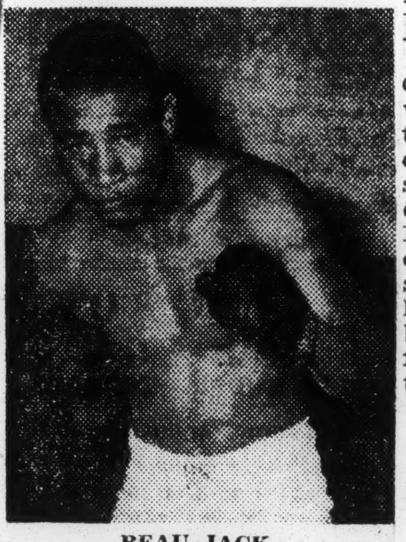
Bill Mardo

Biggest box-office draw to come along since young Joe Louis hopped an East-bound train back in the mid-30s, will climb through the Garden ropes at 10 o'clock tonight to do battle with bull-shouldered Johnny Greco.

It's energetic little Beau Jack that I'm talking about.

Here, friends, is one of the most fascinating ringman in the business. For sheer effervescent, three full minutes of fighting per round, the attraction offered by Beau Jack can't be bettered.

There are many fighters, top-notchers too, whom the observer can take his eyes off at occasional moments during a bout. But then there are a gifted few who own such an abundance of color and excitement that even the most blase customer can't help but focus attention on the performer for every second that he's in there.



BEAU JACK

63c
2-8-46

Beau Jack warrants just such an audience. And gets it too, as cashier Mike Jacobs will tell you at the drop of his upper plate. Did you ever see a buzzsaw? That's the Beau. A swinging, charging, hooking, jabbing, boloing little package rolled all in one. He crams so damn much speed and leather-tossing into each round that I invariably find myself taking a deep breath with him every time he goes back to his corner for a 60-second respite.

As a matter of fact, it's precisely because Beau's tremendous energy has been so exploited that he's never become a truly great scrapper. Bowman Milligan and Chick Wergeles have been content to let Beau swing along with his "battle-royal" style, rather than slow him down a bit and school the kid in little fundamentals like leverage and getting the most into a punch. As Beau shapes up now, he's a sharp, ever-swinging little imitation of Henry Armstrong, with more excitement than the former three-title king ever had, but minus Hank's potency.

Beau throws a million punches a minute, some short, some long, some jabs, some hooks, some that land and some that don't. As such there's never any real TNT behind his blows—he just succeeds in completely over-swarming and outpunching his foe. And it's not that Beau lacks a kayo sting . . . it's just that his management has never attempted to restrain some of the energy and teach him how to get set before letting loose with a torrent of blows.

And the little Jack-saw is still plenty open for a right-handed sharp-shooter. I shudder to think of all the catching Beau would do with his jaw against such precision punchers as Ray Robinson and perhaps Tommy Bell. But Beau Jack faces no such threat in Johnny Greco tonight. True, brawny Jawn packs the wallop of uranium in his fight mitt—but the Canadian clouter is neither a sharp-shooter nor a finisher.

2-8-46

Greco can unquestionably dump any man he reaches with an overhand right, but thereupon the Montreal mauler goes right-hand crazy and invariably poops himself out trying to park the payoff.

That's been Greco's entire history in the Garden, whether he's been up against clever Bobby Ruffin or a fuzzy-cheeked youngster like Tony Janiro.

Beau figures to win tonight. He moves too fast and punches too often for Greco. And despite all of Jack's deficiencies as a crushing hitter, he may have the opportunity to score a kayo because brother Greco doesn't take a blow quite as well as his rugged Physique would indicate.

And on the other hand, Beau Jack can shake off a punch better than Mike Jacobs does a lead dime.

Dan Burley on SPORTS

Amsterdam News

Beau Jack Now A Welterweight; May Have To Fight Sugar Ray Robinson To Prove Right To New Rating

N.Y., N.Y.
1-19-46

Beau Jack, better known (or is he?) as Sidney Walker, of Augusta, Georgia, the other night knocked out Morris Reif of the Bronx, who weighed 146½ to Beau's 143½. This made the second-post-war ring triumph in Madison Square Garden (where, incidentally, he'll do most of his fighting, Mike Jacob's permitting) for the former Georgia shoeshine boy and caddy, his first since doffing the khaki being a ten round disputed decision over William Joyce, the left jab artist from out Gary, Indiana way. There was hardly any significance in the dramatic knockout Beau Jack scored over Reif. It had been expected and the record shows that Jack was a 4-1 favorite to win and a 6-5 choice to score on a kayo. All of which came true. As in the past, Beau's potentialties as a boxoffice magnet were in evidence, a house of 14,871 being on hand for the festivities. All of this however is the usual post-fight wash, the big thing is in another angle. Beau Jack is now a welterweight.

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Beau Used To Be A Champ

It will be remembered that Beau Jack, before he went into the Army, was accepted as the lightweight champion of the world in New York State and a few others who see eye to eye with Eddie Eagan, Dr. C. B. Powell and Gen. John J. Phelan of the New York State Athletic Commission. Beau finally dropped the 135-lb. gonfalon to a tough hombre from Philadelphia named Bobcat Bob Montgomery who took the title into the army and has kept it ever since, although he is now out and anxious to get in he swim to make some money from the title is eventually lifted from his rugged brow.

As a welterweight, due to army grub and the rigors of living in a stateside camp, Beau Jack faces a different kind of future. As a welterweight he whipped all the candidates for top honors in sight and as a lightweight he might continue that habit today. But he's on the other side of 140 pounds and doesn't look like he'll lose eight, which means that the future is a different kind of future than that of the early days when he was being tutored by that rich bunch of southern gentlemen headed by Grantland Rice, Dick Vidmer, Chip Robert, Bobby Jones and others.

Beau Now In Fast Company

As a welterweight Beau Jack comes into the circle witherein operate such dangerous brethren as Ray (Sugar) Robinson presently about the business of hounding champion Red Cochrane for a title match; Marty Serve, just out of the Coast Guard, who got the title shot at Cochrane in place of Robinson, the logical contender; Tippy Larkin, the dangerous boxing master from Garfield, N. J.; Jimmy Doyle of Los Angeles; Tommy Bell, the terrific clouter from Cleveland; Nick Moran of Mexico, and other troublesome hombres, including California Jackie Robinson, Joe Louis' army boxing troupe sidekick. A welterweight Beau Jack thus faces a turbulent and troublesome future which he wouldn't have been bothered with if he hadn't eaten so much Spam and beans while in the Army, thus retaining his boyish figure of 135 lbs. or under.

For quite a few months prior to his induction into the service, Ray Robinson was the target of an undercover whispering campaign originating in the direction of talkative Chick Wergeles and Bowman Milligan, managers of Beau Jack, as half of a Robinson-Beau Jack contest, Robinson, of course, being the legitimate welter, and Beau, the 135-pounder. Nobody knew what the object was unless Wergeles and Milligan were tired of managing Beau and wanted him cremated in front of their eyes in the Garden ring. Nobody paid much attention to such bragging as came from the Milligan-Wergeles side of the fence, certainly not Robinson, despite the fact that he knew such a fight would attract a record gate and make his personal take that much more for the income tax people to work upon. So, the talk died of its own accord, especially after Uncle moved in and started beckoning at Ray and at Beau. 1-19-46

Now Beau's front office faces the terrible possibility that circumstances may come about in such a way as to throw or force Beau into the same ring as a welterweight contender against Robinson. It will also be recalled that the New York Boxing Commission listed or had Beau listed for them as a logical contender for Cochrane's welterweight championship. Indeed, Cochrane would have accepted Beau in preference to Robinson. Nat Fleischer, editor of the authoriative Ring Magazine, boxing's bible, stuck Beau in as the No. 7 logical contender among the welterweights, making Robinson No. 1, of course.

Beau Must Develop Punch

Beau as a welterweight will have to develop a punch—a punch more devastating than he has shown thus far, despite the four round kayo of Morris Reif. The welterweights around today don't play. These boys hit hard, very hard and many times knock out people who can't punch back as effectively. Although Beau is a busy little man with plenty of courage, he is still no boxing genius and is not likely to be one. So, the best thing for Beau is to get a knockout punch. He has few knockouts comparatively, in his Garden appearances, all of which adds up to the fact that he doesn't hit hard enough to be an outstanding welterweight. I don't know what Bowman Milligan and Chick Wergeles plan to do about this, but they'd better get busy quick or they'll find Ray Robinson knocking at their door. Ray, you see, has made a resolution to knock out every welterweight, of note on the horizon to prove himself the greatest in that division. Which doesn't sound too good for the cause of Welterweight Sidney (Beau Jack) Walker.

Beau Jack Holds Greco to Draw in Garden Bout

~~Afro American~~
Baltimore, Md.

Former Lightweight Champ Powders More Rugged Foe to Take 5 Rounds on AFRO Card

Sat 2-16-46

NEW YORK—Though subjected to the most severe body hammering he has received in his boxing career, Beau Jack, former lightweight champion, marked his second excursion into the welterweight division here Friday by gaining a draw with the heavier, more rugged Johnny Greco of Montreal, Canada.

A sellout crowd of 18,941 fans paid a non-heavyweight record of $148,152 to see the goings-on. This represented the third highest draw in the 21year history of Madison Square Garden, only two other gates exceeding it.

Biggest draw in Garden annals was the $201,613 paid for the Delaney-Maloney bout in 1927. The second highest amount paid into

63c

Colored Judge's Vote Gets Draw for Greco

NEW YORK—It was the ballot of Frank Forbes, judge ap-

pointed by the New York State Athletic Commission, that gave Johnny Greco, Canadian welterweight, his draw with Beau Jack at Madison Square Garden here Friday night.

Referee Ruby Goldstein voted Jack the winner, 5 rounds to Greco's 3; Judge Marty Monroe called the fight even in rounds and points; Judge Forbes awarded Greco the verdict, 5-4.

Although the AFRO figured the Beau as winner by a slight margin, it pays tribute to Forbes for calling the play exactly as he saw it.—SAM LACY.

the turnstiles here was the $189,700 fans shelled out for the Joe Louis-Buddy Baer Navy Relief affair in 1942.

The AFRO score-card tallied five rounds for the Beau, chalked in two for Greco and three even.

Jack in Trouble

The Canadian's best rounds, in this scoring, were the third when he undoubtedly had Jack in trouble, and the tenth, in which he swarmed all over the Georgian with his superior stamina and greater strength.

Throughout the milling the strength of his bigger and younger rival had been an important factor against Beau. Johnny used his weight advantage, which appeared to be far more than the announced three pounds, to bull Jack around the ring and to pin him on the ropes.

It cannot be said that either boy had to carry the fight. Both appeared willing to mix and both lived up to their reputations as plodders. Boxing fans have come to recognize Jack and Greco as fighters who are constantly moving in.

That is what happened Friday night and, as a consequence, Beau Jack was called upon to hold up his opponent's weight as well as his own, while sapping his own strength in throwing leather at his rough-and-ready adversary.

The Beau took the first round by a narow margin. Greco opened the fight by bearing in and landing a solid punch to the midriff. He immediately began concentrating on Jack's body but the Georgian scored with two heavy left hooks to the head and counted a pair of well-placed bolo punches that shook Greco.

The second heat saw the Beau resorting to his bolo more frequently but not with the same telling effect. The Canadian reached Beau's body several times in the late stages to even the round.

Third All Greco

The third round was all Johnny. He dogged the Beau around the ring at will, pinned him on the ropes and pounded his body unmercifully. The former lightweight champ was unmistakably in trouble when the gong sounded halting the punishment.

Jack got a draw in the fourth, but mainly because Greco failed to make the best of his advantage. Jack showed definite signs of weariness from the belting he took in the previous stanza but for some unaccountable reason Johnny permitted him to coast through the session and recover his poise.

As quickly as the tide had changed in Greco's favor, it went back to the Beau Jack corner. Himself again after the fourth-round lull and the one-minute rest period, Jack spent the fifth swarming all over his adversary. He landed repeatedly with bolo punches that snapped the tiring Greco's head up off his chest.

Draws Blood

Changing his tactics once more, Jack jabbed his way through the sixth and, before the round was one minute old, blood was flowing freely from the Greco nose. In this session and the previous one, Johnny did not land a single authoritative blow, Beau Jack taking both rounds with consummate ease.

Sat 2-16-46

Both boys were plainly tired in the seventh. Jack seemed armweary and could not throw a clean punch. Greco, on the other hand, realizing the futility of trying to score effectively, kept in close, forcing Referee Ruby Goldstein to step in more than at any other time during the melee. Jack, however, was given the AFRO vote in this session on the basis of the few blows that were landed.

The eighth was even. Both contestants appeared to be saving themselves for the finish.

Jack Speeds Up

Jack took the ninth with a display of speed that has characterized most of his bouts. He danced into Greco, flushed him with a peppering left jab and, each time the opportunity came, tossed his favorite uppercut. At least two of these got home in the Greco midsection and the Montreal youngster winced.

Putting all he had in his finish, Johnny treated the Beau to just about the most clean-cut shellacking he has ever received in the tenth. Greco kept on top of Jack and scored repeatedly with crushing blows to the body.

The bout marked the Beau's third in eight weeks and his second excursion into the welterweight ranks. He was reported at 142 pounds for the contest with his opponent announced as weighing in at 145.

Beau Jack Fills Garden In Furious Battle With Greco

Black Dispatch Oklahoma City Okla Sat 2-23-46

NEW YORK, Feb — (NNPA — Beau Jack, former lightweight champion, and Johnny Greco, Canadian welterweight, battled ten rounds to a draw in the feature bout at Madison Square Garden last Friday night.

The gate of $148,152 set a new Garden record for non-heavyweight fights, and it was the world's largest boxing gate since Joe Louis and Buddy Baer drew $189,700 at the Garden in January of 1942.

A 3-to-1 underdog in the betting, the Canadian clouter carried the fight to the highly touted former lightweight champion most of the way to come within a shade of scoring one of the most stunning upsets the Garden has seen in years.

Only in the middle rounds, where Jack suddenly discovered a left jab and practically took a lease on Johnny's face with it, was the ex-Georgia shoe-shine boy able to do any particular damage.

Goldsteing gave Beau five rounds, Grace three and called two even. However, Judge Frank Forbes thought the dark-haired, muscular mauler from Montreal had won. He scored five for Grece, four for Beau and one even.

BEAU JACK IS HELD TO DRAW BY GRECO

Rival Welterweights Battle on Even Terms in Garden 10-Round Main Bout

New York Times

18,000 WATCH CONTEST

2-9-46

Kessler Annexes Honors Over Romanello in Semi-Final —Richie Whips Powell

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Beau Jack, Augusta, Ga., scrapper, and Johnny Greco, Canadian welterweight, battled ten rounds to a draw in the feature bout at Madison Square Garden last night.

Greco had the weight advantage over the ex-lightweight king. The Canadian scaled 145½ as against 142 for Jack. A crowd of 18,000 was present.

2-9-46

The fight held so great an appeal for the boxing public that the vicinity of the Garden was crowded with would-be spectators even in the afternoon. Lines at the balcony entrances in Forty-ninth and Fiftieth Streets formed as early at o'clock, and two hours later they extended, two abreast, as far back as Ninth Avenue. This throng was reduced visibly when the doors were open and the fans rushed inside to the unreserved sections.

It was not long, though, before another crowd of fans began to form, most of them lured to the Garden in the hope of getting an unreserved seat. Failing in that, the enthusiasts remained around the entrance anyway, held by the rumor that standing-room would be put on sale sometime before the main bout started. The rumor became an actuality at 7:30 when the announcement was made that as many standing-room customers as the fire laws would permit would be admitted.

Ruby Goldstein the Referee

The referee was Ruby Goldstein and the judges were Frank Forbes and Marty Munroe.

Greco rushed Jack at the outset and sent a stream of blows to the body. Thee ex-lightweight king sought to get into the open, but the Canadian wouldn't let him. When they did get around to fighting at long range, Jack ripped a hard uppercut to the head, but Greco came back with an equally hard right to the chin. 2-9-46

In the second Jack drove a left hook to the head and then shot a right to the same place. Johnny sent his right to the body and then they closed to trade punches at short range. In these exchanges Jack fired a number of short rights to the chin.

BEAU JACK STOPS REIF AT GARDEN

Times 1-5-46

Augusta (Ga.) Boxer Knocks Out Brownsville Rival in Welterweight Match

BOUT ENDS IN 4TH ROUND

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Beau Jack, Augusta (Ga.) scrapper, knocked out Morris Reif, Brownsville welterweight, in the feature match listed for ten rounds at Madison Square Garden last night.

The bout ended in the fourth round.

A crowd of 18,000 was present. It was announced that the Beau weighed 143½ pounds and Reif 148½. The referee was Arthur Donovan, on his first Garden assignment since returning from an extende tour of the South Pacific. The judges were John Potter and Frank Forbes.

Reif came tearing out of his corner with the opening gong and for a minute and fifteen seconds the crowd saw more action than is usually crowded into half a dozen ordinary rounds.

Reif plunged after Jack and backed the Georgian to the ropes, lashing out with left hooks for the head and body. Most of them missed. Jack tried a stiff left jab and kept Reif off balance. But Reif got home with a left to the body and in a moment the Beau was a raging tornado.

Beau Jack K.O.'s Reif

New York, Jan. 4 (AP)—Bouncing Beau Jack made a surprise switch from a wear-them-down puncher to a savage slugger tonight and flattened Morris Reif, an outgunned Brooklyn belter, in four rounds in Madison Square Garden. Jack weighed 143½; Reif 146½.

Winding up a bruising brawl that had a near sellout crowd howling from bell to bell, the former lightweight champion doubled his Brooklyn rival up with a smashing right to the body midway of the fourth round, then brought up another right to the chin and Reif was counted out at 2 minutes, 1 second of the heat. The bout was scheduled for ten rounds.

Greco Draw May Indicate End for Jack

Washington Post Washington D.C. Sun. 2-10-46

New York, Feb. 9 (AP).—Ever since Beau Jack came down the pike to win and lose the lightweight championship and commit general mayhem on a lot of other fellows, they've been saying his buzzsaw style was a carbon copy of the perpetual motion machine—Henry Armstrong.

And today the Jacobs Beach beachcombers were wondering if maybe the Jumping Jack's engine hadn't run down and burned out just as suddenly and somewhat the same way Hammerin' Hennery's did a few years back.

A 1-to-3 betting choice, the Jumping Jack managed to get only a 10-round draw in Madison Square Garden last night with Johnny Greco, the up-and-down Canadian, and about the best you can say for the Jumping Jack was that any resemblance between his buzzsawing and Armstrong's annihilating was purely coincidental. As a matter of fact, the way the one-time Georgia shoeshine boy let Elevator Johnny take charge gave you the idea Jack was two others guys in there last night. Sun. 2.10.46

Greco won just about everything but the decision, and when the officials failed to give him that, the crowd of 18,941 hooed lustily. The sellout, incidentally, resulted in a gross gate of $148,512, the fanciest cash register-full ever attracted by two little men in the garden. It was the third best gate in all garden history, passed only by two heavyweight jackpots in the past 21 years. Jack weighed 142; Greco, 145½.

For six rounds at was a Pier Six brawl to top all slugging matches. They stood shoulder to shoulder and belted away, Johnny mixing a brand new body attack with his usual right-hand head hammering and the Beau belting away with that chinstrap bolo punch which has made a lot of capable nose-mashers holler "uncle" in the past.

Sammy Angott failed to answer the bell for the seventh stanza of his Monday night fight against Beau Jack in Washington—and so the boloing Beau scored the first kayo ever racked up against Angott. It was a rough and tumble fight, with 31-year-old Angott resorting to his usual clutch and tug habits. But the Beau, who was out to avenge the draw he fought with the ex-lightweight king two years ago, was in no mood to be hugged and he belted Sammy the Octopus all over the ring. Angott, who'd been floored twice earlier in the bout, claimed a leg cramp at the end of the sixth and couldn't come out for the next stanza.

Yes indeed, Beau Jack is really rolling along in fine fettle these days. His next foe is slated to be clever Danny Kapilow who recently upset the dope by kayoing Aaron Perry

Wed. 9-10-46 Daily Worker

In this corner

Beau Jack Is Back Tonite, Rested and Rarin'

Daily Worker

By Bill Mardo

It's good news tonight, as that crummy commentator says. But this time it's true. Beau Jack is back. And the little Negro welter with the irrepressible energy is always good news for Garden fans. That's why Jacobs Hall will be packed to the rafters tonight, when Beau battles Johnny Greco in a return ten-rounder, which should be a great improvement over the disappointing draw they wrestled to last February. New York, N.Y.

There was a reason for that first meeting having turned out so miserably. Beau went into that bout exhausted from overwork and finally fell apart from sheer need of rest. For the Jack-saw's managers with the hungry wallets had imagined Beau to be some sort of a superman who could fight week in and week out without showing the effects of such a torturous grind. They discovered differently when Beau ran out of steam three months ago, and since then the sweet-faced kid with the Indian features has been getting the first real rest of his sensational boxing career.

BEAU JACK

That's why the boloing Beau should be his old windmill self this evening when the handle on the big Garden time-piece rolls around to 10 o'clock. And when Beau Jack is right, it takes more than the likes of slugging Johnny Greco to beat the ex-lightweight king. As a matter of fact, there have been very few men able to take the dynamic Negro scrapper. Certainly the Canadian clouter isn't a member of that high-grade minority. Greco doesn't know enough, he's not a clever puncher, and indeed, all Johnny can do is keep winging with that club-like right of his. More often than not he fails to connect, and unfortunately for Greco, he falls into that category of knocker-outers who can't maintain their socking potency over the entire route. 5-31-46

The broad-shouldered belter from Montreal has always displayed this inefficiency, and particularly against Bobby Ruffin, a none-too-sturdy lightweight who couldn't be hurt by Greco after the midway mark in all their three bouts.

Beau Jack took Greco's best pot-shots last February and didn't fold, and doesn't figure to hit the canvas tonight either. Actually, before that match degenerated into a hug-and-hold affair, the Beau was climbing all over the grim-visaged Canadian, jabbing with that wonderful left of his and boloing Greco's head back time and again.

That's Beau Jack's main forte, his ceaseless two-fisted offensive coupled with an amazing energy that can keep him going at top speed for 10 full rounds. It figures to be that way tonight, especially since Beau's been rested and is rarin' to go again. 5-31-46

So we look for the Beau to punch out a clean-cut decision in this encore setto, which is a decent enough thank you for the popular little buzzsaw to be givnig to the 18,000 folks who'll be on hand saying hello Beau, long time no see. Friday

And that long time no see slogan is something that Greco will be only too glad to adopt permanently after tonight's match. They all feel that way, once the little guy from Georgia gets through with them.

• • • New York, N.Y.

Did you know there are only 19 more shopping days left to the Louis-Conn bout? And isn't that an exciting thought! We'll be up to Greenwood Lakes next week for a look at the Pittsburgh kid, and if press reports from his camp are accurate, Billy is really something to look at these afternoons. 5-31-46

How he'll look the night of June 19th is another story. They do say Joe Louis is a whole lot tougher than those guys whom Conn is stabbing silly in his daily workouts.

Ah yes, only 19 more days.

Watch Out, 'Monty' and 'Sugar', The Beau Is Showing Old Form

Courier

By HASKELL COLE

NEW YORK CITY—This is a warning to Bob Montgomery and Sugar Ray Robinson, lightweight champ and welterweight-champ to be: Beau Jack is his old self again and will give you guys the battle of your careers if and when you lay your title on the line with the Georgia shoeshine boy . . . The Beau was a new man Friday night against Johnny Greco in the Garden and was just as sharp the other night as he was dull when he first battled the Canadian last February. Sat

There was little doubt about the winner this time. Two officials voted 8-2 for the Beau while Judge Frank Forbes cast 7-3 for the hustling battler from the South. Greco bounced out of his corner like a lion and charged the Beau into the ropes where he pummeled him for a minute before the colored boy slipped out and asserted himself. For the next three rounds Jack beat his man to the punch inside and threw his bolo to the jaw with unerring accuracy. Greco's kisser was bleeding as early as the second round from an eye cut and bashed beak. 6-8-46

Greco failed to pin Beau Jack against the ropes consistently as he did in their first fight. At 141½, the likeable Southerner was too strong for the canuck who outweighed him by five pounds. The Beau showed where he had benefited under the tutelage of Panama Joe Gans. He boxed better than he did in previous fights although he isn't the most graceful fighter in the land. When Greco bulled and rushed him throwing wild rights and looping left hooks the Beau simply stepped back and eluded Johnny. Formerly Jack caught many of these blows by refusing to take a backward step.

GRECO WINS TWO ROUNDS Pittsburgh

Greco took the fourth and seventh cantos but was badly outclassed the rest of the way. Beau Jack simply had too much gas for Johnny. After the fight the Beau prespired heavily, an indication he was in tip top shape. In February he was dry as a churchmouse after finishing the first fight against Greco. Pa

The Beau wants two more fights before tangling for the lightweight crown. Nat Rogers, matchmaker, indicated that there was an August fight in the offing for the winner. Greco entered the ring a 7-5 favorite but didn't look that good before the 11,407 faithful who chipped in $66,922 to see the fuss.

Beau Jack Beats Kapilow In D. C.

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

Sat. 8-31-46

By CASEY JONES

WASHINGTON, D. C.—True to his promise, Danny Kapilow, 145, New York, began roughing it at the opening gong against Beau Jack, 143½, Georgia, in their ten round battle at Griffith Stadium Monday night before 10,427 frantic fans who saw the tables reversed however when Beau Jack took the play away from Kapilow, outroughed Danny and nearly knocked him out.

On the Amsterdam News score card Beau Jack won the first, second, third, fourth, sixth, seventh, ninth and tenth rounds. Kapilow won no rounds. The fifth and eighth were even.

The fight was viciously fought in every round. Kapilow rushed into a bolo thrown by Beau in the second round which was counted as a low blow against Jack. Kapilow came back in the third round and deliberately planted a low blow on Beau which drew a broad smile from Al Weill who handled Kapilow. Beau became an enraged "killer" from that point on, landing bolo after bolo to Kapilow's head and midsection following with series of rights and lefts which he rained on every legal part of Danny's anatomy keeping Kapilow on the verge of a knockout.

Kapilow's doom nearly came in the sixth round when Beau let loose a barrage of terrific right hand blasts to the head of Kapilow who suddenly hit the canvas completely out. Referee Harry Volkman reached the count of six when the bell rang, saving Kapilow. Al Weill dragged Danny to his stool. Kapilow was in bad shape as he came out for the seventh round. He weathered the storm however, and did better in the eighth and ninth rounds but he had to hang on desperately in the final stanza. The decision was unanimous for Beau Jack who was wildly cheered as he left the ring.

Preliminaries

Franklin Gantt, 153, won over Keith Gools, 147, in a four. Both local. Baby Jack, 139, Georgia, won a five round decision over Flat Top Cummings, 145, local. Artie Brown, 144, decisioned Norville Gaddis, 152½, five rounds. Both local. Ed. Franklin, 185½, won a first round t.k.o. in 2:50 over Bob Smith, 219, New York. Stonewall Jackson, 140, local, decisioned Taylor Williams, 143, New York.

Al Weill was the busiest man around the fight Monday night in his duel capacity. It is of course well known by the boxing public and presumably by the Dee Cee Commission, that Weill practically operates the Liberty Athletic Club which staged the Beau Jack-Danny Kapilow fight which is in rank violation of the Commissioner's rule forbidding a fight manager to use his fighter in a club in which he has an interest.

Every Negro sports writer in Washington suffers keenly by the drastically unfair treatment they receive from Weill and his Liberty Athletic Club in comparison with his treatment of sports writers of the daily press. This in spite of the fact that sixty-five per cent of the attendance of his big outdoor fights are Negroes while eighty per cent of his club's fighters are Negroes. *Sat. 8-31-46*

The Dee Cee Negro sports writers will meet soon to see what can be done about it, as well as make plans to continue the boycott of Uline Arena during the coming indoor fight season.

BEAU JACK BREAKS KNEECAP IN CHICAGO

The Times

Georgian on Shelf 4 Months—Castiglione to Replace Him Against Joyce Tomorrow

New York, N.Y.

CHICAGO, Nov. 13 (U.P.)—Beau Jack, former world lightweight boxing champion, today suffered a kneecap fracture which will keep him out of the ring at least four months. Nick Castiglione of Chicago was named to substitute for him in a ten-round bout here Friday night against Willie Joyce of Gary, Ind. *Thurs. 11-4-46*

Beau Jack's left kneecap was fractured in a training accident while he was taking his final workout for his bout with Joyce. His knee was twisted as he bounced off the ropes while sparring with Gene Buffalo. The knee buckled under him and he was carried from the ring.

Dr. Mitchell Corbitt, Chicago Stadium physician, said the former Augusta (Ga.) shoeshine boy would be unable to fight for at least four months.

The advance sale for the Beau Jack-Joyce bout at the Chicago Stadium had been heavy, with the gate expected to exceed $60,000.

Castiglione, named to take Beau Jack's place, won a decision only last Monday night over Bill Parsons of Danville, Ill.

Beau Jack originally had been scheduled to meet Johnny Brattan of Chicago, who defeated Joyce here two weeks ago, but Brattan was forced to cancel the engagement because of a hand injury suffered against Joyce.

Dr. Corbitt said he would place a cast on the former champion's knee and Beau Jack announced he would leave for New York as soon as possible to undergo an operation.

Beau Jack Wins Unanimous Verdict Over Dan Kapilow

Daily World Atlanta Ga

Sun. 8-25-46

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) In complete command the whole distance, Beau Jack, former shoeshine boy of Augusta, Georgia, blasted his way to a unanimous ten-round decision over Danny Kapilow, Brooklyn Welterweight, at Griffith Stadium Monday night, in one of the best outdoor shows ever staged here.

A disappointing crowd of 10,427 braved threatening weather to see the brawl, paying a gross of $42,437.73 and a net of $32,003.46. The liberty Athletic Club had expected 15,000 and a gate of some $50,000, but a heavy rain shortly before fight time cut the attendance. Beau Jack was given a $15,000 guarantee.

The biggest handicap Beau had during the fight was Referee Harry Volkman, who kept breaking the fighters for no reason at all. Danny was no match for Beau at infighting but whatever Beau got to wailing away at Kapilow on the inside Volkman would break the fighters.

JACK OPENS UP

In the sixth round Beau became enraged and vicious. He belted Kapilow all over the ring in this round and near the end caught him with a left hook to the chin. Danny went down, but when the count reached six the bell sounded ending the round.

Kapilow's seconds finally got him into his senses after working on him in his corner for about twenty-five seconds and pouring a bottle of water on his neck.

After carrying the first round by a shade, Beau was penalized two points for low blows. Jack brought the crowd to its feet in the third round with his celebrated bolo punches. Kapilow got the edge in an exchange in the fourth, but Jack carried the fifth. In the sixth came the knockdown and from then on it was Jack all the way. Beau entered the ring a 3 1-2 to 1 favorite. He weighed 143 3-4 pounds as against 145 for Kapilow.

Beau Jack Batters Danny Kapilow

The Tribune Washington, D.C. Sat. 8-24-46

Only the bell saved dangerous Dannny Kapilow from tasting his first kayo defeat at Griffith Stadium last Monday night as 11,005 screaming fans looked on. It was in the sixth round that an enraged tiger by the name of Beau Jack swarmed all over the Brooklyn lad and blasted him to the canvas colder than a proverbial mackerel. But as the timer counted six the bell rang and Kapilow was saved.

Kapilow never had a chance. His highly touted left never had a chance to land as Beau beat him at long range and tore him in the close work.

The fight was a torrid one, but much cleaner than the Jack-Angott fight. Each fighter dropped a round by low blows and in the eighth both boys threw low punches.

At the finish of the fast paced fight Kapilow's pan was streaming with a crimson glow from the blood that gushed forth from a cut over his left eye.

Carter's Fighter Wins

John Carter's new heavy hope, Al Edwards scored a six-round TKO over highly rated Jimmy Bourshard in one of the better prelims. Norvil Gaddis dropped a decision to Artie Brown in another exciting bout.

Baby Beau Jack provided the humor by his clowning antics as he did a paint job on Flat Top Cummings.

It was a terrific card all the way, but OH—THAT BEAU JACK!

63c 1946

Beau Jack

BEAU JACK AND REIF END HARD TRAINING

Rivals for Tomorrow's Fight Go Through Snappy Drills Against Sparring Mates

Six rounds of sparring at a snappy pace yesterday concluded the training of Beau Jack, former world lightweight champion, for the ten-round bout in which he is to engage Morris Reif, Brooklyn welterweight, tomorrow night in Madison Square Garden. And, for his final day of hard training, Reif featured four rounds of sparring against two rivals.

The prospective ring rivals worked at different hours in Stillman's Gymnasium, Reif transferring from Charley Beecher's in Brooklyn, where he got in his New Year's Day training. Today Jack and Reif will engage in only limbering-up exercises. Each came through the preparatory ordeal without accident or bruise, a fact which was a relief to Matchmaker Nat Rogers of the Twentieth Century S. C., who is directing a prospective $75,000 gate in the absence of Promoter Mike Jacobs.

Jacobs has been forced to cancel plans which would have brought him back from Florida yesterday. He now is due tomorrow.

The Beau Expects to Weigh 142

In his final drill, Beau Jack used three spar-mates, working two rounds each against Tommy Sloan, Torpedo Reed and Burl Charity. The dusky Georgian concentrated on speed, obviously to equip himself to follow a burning pace against the paralyzing hitter, Reif.

Refusing to divulge his weight, the Beau said he expected to enter the ring at 142 pounds, or two pounds lighter than he weighed for his recent scrap with Willie Joyce, first since he received his discharge from the Army.

Reif sparred two rounds with Jeff Holloway and as many with Joe Torrens. The Brooklynite, bosating the most powerful left hook among the ring's lighter men today, specialized in development of a short left hook, confident he will "tag" the Beau with this blow and shatter the Georgian's ambitions for welterweight honors. Reif said he expects to weigh 145 pounds against Jack.

The Beau remained favorite in the betting yesterday, but additional support for Reif was noticed. Veteran ring followers recall that Bob Montgomery was a favorite to defeat the late Al Davis the night Davis knocked Montgomery out in sixty-three seconds. And, using this for purposes of comparison, it was pointed out that whereas Davis' left hook was lethal only for perhaps four rounds, Reif's is a threat at any time he strikes.

BEAU JACK FAVORED OVER REIF TONIGHT

Augusta Battler Rated 1 to 3 Choice in Main 10-Round Encounter at Garden

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Beau Jack will be back in the Garden tonight. The former lightweight champion of the world will head the bill at the Eighth Avenue arena when he faces Morris Reif, hard-punching welterweight from Brownsville, in a ten-round clash. And, with Jack again participating in the headline battle, things have virtually returned to normal in this city's boxing scheme of things.

Time was, before the Augusta (Ga.) gladiator went into the Army, that a week couldn't go by, it seemed, without Jack topping the bill presented by Mike Jacobs. The question among local fight fans in those days, only a couple of years back, was not: "Who's fighting at the Garden tonight?" It was "Who's Beau Jack fighting up there tonight?"

Was the Star Performer

Of course Jacobs slipped in other shows between appearances made by Jack, but the frequency with which the popular Negro performed seemed to stand out boldly, so much so that many among the uninitiated came to accept the belief that, just as is the case in the theatre, the Beau was the star, and everybody else in the boxing game merely filled supporting roles.

A civilian again, Jack is picking up exactly where he left off. Only three weeks ago he fought in the star bout at the Garden and registered a victory over Willie Joyce after ten close rounds. He has Reif on his hands tonight, and, win or lose, he's bound to be back in the Garden soon, for there's a remunerative bout with Rocky Graziano in the offing.

Reif Has Edge in Weight

Reif will have the weight edge on Jack, but the ex-lightweight king will carry the support of the selectors. The Brownsville fighter plans to scale 145, as against 140 for the Beau. The betting figures are 1 to 3 with Jack favored.

Because Joyce made things so close in the scrap three weeks ago there are many who lean to the opinion that Jack has not yet regained his peak fighting form, and as a consequence will not be up to the task of handling Reif. The latter is a sharp left-hand puncher, and can bring down anybody he reaches. He is confident that he can reach Jack.

A crowd of 15,000 fans is expected and the receipts will likely exceed $70,000. Four six-rounders and an opening bout of four rounds will support the main event. Tickets are priced from $2.50 to $12.00 for reserved seats, with $1.50 the charge for general admission.

Beau Likes The Even Number Years

Beau Jack isn't particularly superstitious, as fighters go, but he is mighty glad 1946 is here. Because, throughout is career, Beau Jack has always done considerably better for himself in even-numbered years than in those years ending in odd numbers.

The Beau starts off his 1946 campaign on Friday night when he opposes Morris Reif, Brownsville welterweight, at Madison Square Garden in a contest scheduled for 10 rounds. Jack is confident he will be able to weather Reif's powerful left hooks and triumph, going on from there to win back the world lightweight title or, failing that, the welterweight title.

It was in 1940, an even-numbered year, that Beau Jack began his professional ring career. He did right well in that first year of pro boxing and before the year was over he had established himself as a most promising lightweight in New England rings.

In his very first fight of 1941, however, Beau Jack was beaten by Mexican Joe Silva. He came back from that defeat to pile up a number of good victories but in his very last two fights of the year again ran into misfortune in the shape of a pair of setbacks at the hands of Freddie Archer.

The year 1942 was wonderful for Beau Jack. He won every one of his 13 fights, he scored eight knockouts, he finished up the year by halting Allie Stolz and Tippy Larkin in the Garden ring, the Larkin victory gaining his recognition as lightweight champion.

In '43 he again ran into trouble. For one thing, he lost the title to Bob Montgomery, he lost a decision to Bobby Ruffin, he came down with a knee injury

But in '44 the Beau was again terriffic. In one month—March—he took part in three bouts at the Garden and became the greatest lightweight attraction in the arena's history.

The Beau spent most of '45 in the Army. He got out in time to make one start, outpointing Willie Joyce in December. But Jack wasn't over-impressive that night and many spectators thought he did not deserve the decision. But now it's 1946 and the Beau is mighty glad.

The Fans Love Punchers . . .

A couple of years ago when Jimmy Durante and Garry Moore were doing their 10 o'clock show on Fridays, Durante got off a good gag when, referring to working against Garden fight time, he said: "Every time you twist the dial it's Beau Jack fighting some other guy. Everybody wants to get into our act."

That's a fact, too, and the Beau did roll up a tremendous number of Friday nights while parlaying his start as a shoeshine boy to more than a million dollars at the gate in one fistical year.

And sure enough, it's Beau Jack again tomorrow night—but everybody has been writing about the Beau, so leave us have a look at his opposition tomorrow. That would be Brooklyn Morris Reif, the dark-eyed boy with the solid left hook.

Reif did a two-year hitch in the Navy, and, when he got out, he wasn't so sure he'd like to continue using the gloves as a means of livelihood. He was at the Garden fights the night Al (Bummy) Davis was meeting Bobcat Bob Montgomery, back there in February, 1944.

Matchmaker Nat Rogers of the 20th SC spotted him and, because he liked to have boxers in uniform take a Garden bow, he prevailed upon Reif to do same. Morris didn't want to do it at first because, as he told Nat, he wasn't sure he'd ever get back to the ring again.

Finally, he did, and then, when he settled back in his seat to watch the main event, he almost missed the fight because that's the night Davis chilled Montgomery in 63 seconds of the first round, and with that chopping left hook at that. The next morning, bright and early, Reif was back in training.

Now if there's one thing Reif knows he's got, it's that left hook. And he figured if things were going to be as soft a touch as that, he'd be a sucker not to go along. It wasn't all that soft, but he did well to go along at that because over that span he has fought 24 times, and, in 16 of them, he has won by knockouts.

Now I'm not here to say Reif is going to put the ice on Jack tomorrow. Matter of fact, it might well go the other way—for 10. But it is a fact that Jack is going to be bumping into as solid a left hook as ever he has faced.

If you saw BJ win his unanimous—but vastly unpopular—decision against Willie Joyce a couple of weeks ago, you will have no trouble recalling that he won the fight by a very wide margin, almost as wide a margin as some of the punches he missed that night.

Jack, after 18 months in the Army, wanted to bypass buildup fights generally indulged in by fighters after such a long layoff, and figured he was ready for a tough shot. He got it in Joyce, but in remembering how he missed against the Gary, Ind., boy, one must wonder what would have happened if someone who could hit—but hard—had been in there against Jack that night.

It's a fact that Jack needed that fight under his belt, as they say in the trade, and it may well have provided his margin of safety for tonight. On the other hand, Jack never has been hard to hit—a fellow who keeps coming at you just naturally exposes himself to more punches—and, if Reif does connect, something might drop.

Jack, of course, loves to fight, and that's what makes him the great attraction he is: he just never stops trying. He has picked up weight, probably will go about 143 for tomorrow, and it seemed to me watching him the other week that he carries more authority in his punches—when he connects.

Neither fighter could ever be billed as fancy. Both boys figure the shortest way home is to keep throwing punches. There's nothing artistic about a lot of flailing arms. But, at the same time, there's nothing the fans like more. They'll probably make 1946's sports boom official by jamming the joint.

—Joe Cummiskey

What's This, Beau Jack Being Groomed to Displace Sugar Ray in Title Bout?

Afro American Sat 2-23-46 Baltimore, Md.

By DON De LEIGHBUR

NEW YORK.—The boys have started working and the undercover operations to sidetrack Sugar Ray Robinson from his promised shot at Marty Servo's world welterweight championship are well under way.

This writer called the play several columns ago when it was indicated that the Beau Jack front office comprised of Messrs. Chick Wergeles and Bowman Milligan was guardedly talking up Beau's chances for a main eventer with some of the better known welterweights and that Beau's added poundage gave him consideration.

Before he lost to Servo, Cochrane told the N.Y. Boxing Commisison that he would consider as a logical opponent for welterweight honors, Servo, Beau Jack, Johnny Greco and Jimmy Doyle. It will be noted that Ray Robinson's name is conspicuous by its absence, despite the rating he holds as the No. 2 welterweight champion.

After Cochrane was knocked

out in his ill-fated title defense by Servo, contracts signed at the Boxing Commission contained a stipulation insisted upon by Dr. C. B. Powell, that the new champion make his first title defense on May 24 and in it, take on Ray Robinson.

Within memory this is the first time I've heard of the loser in a match not being given the customary return opportunity within 30, 60 or 90 days. *Sat 2-23-46*

Wouldn't Be Wise

With Al Weill, cagey and slick, operating in front of Servo, it was felt all along the idea was fundamentally to avoid Robinson at all costs. Indeed, to reason along those lines, it wouldn't be smart at all to let a new champion like Servo get his head knocked off in his first time out as the 147-pound king without first having gained something from the championship.

While Servo didn't do badly at all in Philadelphia in his first fight with Robinson which he lost on a split decision, and while he didn't get knocked out in the second bout held at Madison Square Garden, it is almost a cinch that Robinson will kayo him if they meet again, especially with the championship on the line.

With Beau Jack's front men busy working night and day to improve the position of the titleless Georgia boy so that he can get a shot at some sort of top honors, it is easy then to see how it came to pass that some sort of understanding was in the air that if Beau whipped Johnny Greco, Weill would give him a non-title fight with Servo.

The $20 top affair with Greco at the Garden ended in a dismal draw, however, with the fans booing through the last four rounds of the fight. They thus booed away any real holler on the part of the Beau Jack contingent for consideration for welterweight title honors. However, they probably didn't boo the idea of Beau Jack out of the mind of Al Weill.

Can Pack 'em In

Beau, after all, is a tough little hombre, and the biggest drawing card outside of Joe Louis. He seems fair to assume the place once held by Henry Armstrong as box office bait at the Garden, despite his failure to gain a clear edge on Greco, his first real test as a welterweight.

He can still pack 'em in. Weill, to avoid Robinson, may still be in the mood to risk a lot of things on one big killing, that is, Servo versus Beau Jack with Mike Jacobs promoting at $16.50 or even $20 top. Beau would probably give Servo a good run for his money—possibly, beat him on points.

If this happened, then Robinson's goose would be certainly cooked to a fare-thee-well. Milligan and Wergeles, who bow to no one in the ability to holler and squawk, would raise the roof for their man as the logical contender for the championship. Strange things happen. It might come to pass that Beau Jack moves in before Ray.

Robinson's current feud with Mike Jacobs, plus his inability to get the daily press in his corner, are keys to the unfortunate position he is in. The best fighter in the world, pound for pound, listens to poor advice, or advises himself badly. Ray figures he can be his own manager, but a maxim in the boxing game is that somebody else must make some money—no fighter or manager will ever be allowed to make and keep it all. With a manager in front of him, Robinson might start getting consideration. But, talking for himself, he keeps doors shut in his face.

Clear Angott In Beau Jack TKO

The Defender, Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON—Sammy Angott, who suffered a seventh-round technical knockout in his bout with Beau Jack of Augusta, Ga., here on Monday night, July 8, was given his purse Tuesday and cleared of any charges of failing to give his best.

The white boxer testified that he was willing to continue the fight but that his seconds refused to let him, fearing he would suffer further injuries. *Sat.*

Commissioner Tally praised Angott and invited him to fight in the nation's capital again in the near future. *7-20-46*

Shoe-Shining Doesn't Lose Luster For Beau Jack Despite Sport Fame

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Tues 3-5-46

By Walter L. Johns

Central Press Sports Editor

AUGUSTA, GA., March 4—Having nothing else to do at the club this day Bowman Milligan passed the time waiting for his "laddie" to come home by viewing some color movies of a prize fight.

The scene was the Augusta National Golf Club, (Bobby Jones' own club) the day was Sunday and the golf club was very quiet. Even Milligan, genial Negro who is major-domo of the locker room and general No. 1 "good guy" around the club, enjoyed the few moments of relaxation from a busy life which has projected him into the sports spotlight of the world.

Milligan's "son" (not really his boy) was due in from New York on one of his many returns from the big city. He was coming back to the golf club to shine shoes, caddy and wait on the tables in the second-floor bar—for men only.

Neither Milligan nor his "son" really have to work at their golf club chores. That is, not any more. There was a time they had to work, though, but that was before Milligan, now 45, made his "discovery."

Call Him Columbus

The discovery was that a shoeshine boy at the Augusta National Golf Club could do something better with his hands—and that was fight.

The shoeshine boy was Sidney Walker, a poor, illiterate Negro who only went to the sixth grade in school and had to go to work early to make a living.

You probably have heard of Sidney Walker although you know him by another name. That's right—Beau Jack.

While the story of Beau Jack, a real Horatio Alger tale, has been told and retold, it still sounds good from the lips of Bowman Milligan, who beams with pride as he talks about his "boy." *Tues. 3-5-46*

Even while the color movie was being shown, Milligan was talkative. As, for example: "See Beau in that shot! He's landing a right."

The movie was of interest because it was of Beau Jack's latest fight, that one with Johnny Greco in New York's Madison Square Garden. It was in this fight, only a couple of weeks ago, that Beau drew down his largest purse, a little matter of $34,000.

Battle Royal Start

Incidentally, the two have been re-matched (the fight was a draw) for the Garden but the date has not been officially announced.

Beau Jack's story begins on April Fool's Day in 1921. That is when he was born in Augusta.

As a boy he lived with his uncle and went to the Augusta National Golf club to shine shoes and work as a caddy. On the day set aside for the members' big party each year, it was the custom to have entertainment—such as a battle royal among he Negro youths who worked at the club.

Young Beau Jack was the best "battle royal" in the bunch. Milligan knew it and his wise old head got to thinking. He took the kid with him when he went back to his old home town of Aiken, S. C., and put him in battle royals there. Beau always was the best.

In the summer time, Milligan had a job at the

Beau Jack at Old Trade

Long Meadow Country club at Springfield, Mass. When he would go there he took his young fighter along to work and to fight. In the winter they would come back to Augusta.

Won First Fight

In his first pro fight in the East, at Holyoke, Mas., Milligan's "boy" won by a kayo in the third round. Then followed 27 straight victories, mostly in preliminary bouts.

Milligan wanted Beau to have a good manager and trainer and a chance at the big dough in New York. With the help of Clifford Roberts, chairman of the Augusta National Golf Club, a plan was evolved whereby 20 prominent men in sports or business would contribute $50 each to give the kid $1,000 to get him started in New York. *Tues. 3-5-46*

With that Milligan took his "boy" (he became Beau Jack's legal guardian when Beau was 17) to the big city and in his first bout, in Ebbets Field, Beau won by a kayo in the fifth round. Then followed 13 straight victories. His first big fight in the Garden was with Allie Stolz. Beau won by a technical knockout in the seventh round and received $6,000 for his work.

The rest of the story of Beau Jack's fight career is a matter of record. He went up and up, won the lightweight title and then lost it and now he is fighting his way toward the welterweight crown after a stretch in the Army.

BEAU JACK DEFEATS GRECO IN 10 ROUNDS

Times, New York, N.Y.

Georgia Gains Verdict Over Montreal Rival in Feature Contest at the Garden

6-1-46

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Beau Jack, former lightweight king from Augusta, Ga., defeated Johnny Greco, Montreal welterweight, on points in the feature bout of ten rounds at Madison Square Garden last night.

A crowd of 11,000 was present. Beau Jack weighed 141½ pounds and Greco 146. Eddie Joseph was the referee and the judges were George LeCron and Frank Forbes.

Greco sprang at Jack with the bell and drove a right to the kidney and a left and right to the head. Jack fought back readily and shook Johnny with a number of rights to the jaw. *Sat.*

The Beau Presses Attack

Greco bounced a long right off Jack's jaw in the second, but the Beau closed in and battered the Canadian considerably with short punches to the head.

They punched away at the body through the third, with Jack's rapid-fire delivery gaining him the edge.

In the fourth Greco fired away at the body steadily, ignoring Jack's rights to the head as he drove his own right and left to the mid-section.

In the fifth they traded rights in close, with Jack's punches landing more sharply.

In the sixth Jack's right found its mark often. The ex-lightweight king seemed unable to msis with the weapon, while Greco was unable to counter effectively.

Greco rushed through the seventh, firing his right to the body and shaking off Jack's rights to the head.

In the six-round semi-final Al Victoria, aggressive warrior from St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, defeated Frankie Gromada of the East Side. The pair fought on fairly even terms until the final round when Victoria's right-hand punches earned him the honors. He weighed 141 and Gromada 139¾.

Gromada boxed well at long range in the first round, and stabbed Victoria with several lefts to the head. Near the end of the session Victoria crossed a right to the jaw and shook his foe.

They traded willingly through the second, Victoria scoring with short blows to the body and Gromada landing a number of rights to the chin. *6-1-46*

Victoria Forced to Ropes

In the third Gromada, forcing Victoria to the ropes, trained a steady fire to the body.

The St. Thomas fighter moved into close quarters in the next frame and reached Gromada's head and body with hard rights. Through the fifth they fought head-to-head, with Gromada landing more often. In the final frame Victoria clipped Frankie with two fast rights to the jaw and rendered him shaky. The New Yorker took considerable punishment but did not go down.

Joey Carkido, Youngstown, 137, fought to a six-round draw with Nick Stato, 131, Springfield, Mass. The crowd disagreed with the award, feeling that Stato was the better.

De Witt Dean, Detroit battler, earned the decision over Roddy McDonald of Edmonton, Alberta, in a six-round clash. Dean scaled 151½ and McDonald 155. In the four-round opener Jack La Russo, 130, West Side, outpointed Jim Carter, 130½, East Side.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Auto Crash Death of Jack Johnson Recalls Reno Fight, First "Battle of the Century"

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-22-46

By RALPH MATTHEWS

RENO, Nevada (AFRO National Bureau)—The tragic death of Jack Johnson, former heavyweight champion of the world in an auto accident last week, brought back memories to old timers of the first "Battle of the Century" staged here in 1910.

Halfway between Reno and Sparks, the two townships but a few miles apart, natives pointed out the site of the great outdoor arena where Johnson knocked out Jim Jeffries who came out of retirement as the "White Hope," to wrest the championship from the first black man to win the title.

According to word of mouth testimony and the records of local papers of the time, as great as are the furious matches in which Joe Louis has participated, they could not compare in national interest to the great battle between Johnson and Jeffries.

This is because there was an element present then which has not been felt in any of Joe's fights to any great degree—the racial angle which was fanned to white heat causing riots and bloodshed in many parts of the nation.

In the Louis fights, while the racial issue is omnipresent, yet it is submerged to great degree by the acceptance of the champ merely as a great athlete and an American of whom both races are equally proud, but in those hectic days things were different. Johnson loomed large across the horizon as a refutation to the white man's claim to superiority and the symbol of the Negro's approach to full emancipation. America was not quite ready to accept this challenge.

For months the headlines of the nation screamed the daily developments in the approaching event with all the fan fare of titanic war.

Holds Militia Ready

The fight was first scheduled for San Francisco, but such a howl was raised throughout the State and so much pressure was brought upon the Governor not to permit the fight to be staged that he held the State militia in readiness to break up the contest if promoter Tex Rickard attempted to pull it off.

With both fighters in training near San Francisco and bids for tickets pouring in from all over the nation, Rickard, a few weeks before the battle fearful that the Governor would carry out his threat, sought to move the fight to another site.

The records show that many cities rushed to the rescue pledging large deposits if Rickard would give their town the nod. For days, while he considered offers, the nation waited with baited breath to see which way the prize would fall. Goldfield, Nevada, the wild and wooly western town where Joe Gans won his famous victory over Battling Nelson in another epic of the era, was far in the lead. The local businessmen, backed by gambling syndicates offered to pay off all expenses Tex had incurred in California and give him a stadium free if he would place the fight there.

Reno's chamber of commerce put up the $1,000 license fee and also offered to build an open air stadium to seat 25,000 if Tex chose this town. Salt Lake City, Toledo, Ohio, Carson City, Nev. and several others made equally flattering offers.

Rickard's Decision

Rickard dispatched his agents hither and yon, sizing up the advantages and disadvantages and finally with a half dozen delegations cooling their heels in his San Francisco hotel like diplomats waiting on a mighty potentate, the word was flashed around the nation "Reno Gets Fight."

In a communique, Rickard explained his decision. "Although Goldfield's offer was the most generous of all I could not impose on our thousands of fans coming from the East to an extra 12-hour ride across the desert to reach the city. Reno is the most convenient point both from the East and from San Francisco. The Southern railway has agreed to place 30 Pullman trains in the siding to accommodate those who cannot find rooms. Reno will build our stadium and do all else necessary to make the 'Battle of the Century' a success, for this reason I have chosen Reno."

The Town Roars

For nearly a month, thereafter, Reno was the cynosure of all eyes. Both Johnson and Jeffries set up training camps here. Into the city poured more than 100 famous sports commentators from all over the country. Whiskey flowed like water, every club and hotel was all-day gambling joint. Managers took the chairs out of the lobbies and squeezed in crap tables and roulette wheels in every available space.

Newspaper syndicates vied with each other to buy up the most the event. One paper sent the famous writers of the day to cover, great novelist, Rex Beach, to do a daily series and another sent Jack London.

Beach's Boner

Beach, one of the most popular authors of the day, devoted his daily release to bolstering the cause of white supremacy.

In his final release the day before the fight, he committed his greatest faux pas. He plumped all out for a Jeffries victory, explaining his choice thus:

"As the great fight approaches, I boldly bear the banner of James J. Jeffries. First of all Jeffries possesses a mentality lacking in his antagonist, and mind after all is stronger than matter. In his training he has had the stimulus of better minds than surround the Negro.

"The man of education will outlast the man of ignorance in any test of endurance.

"Furthermore, he possesses a physical peculiarity which I believe has been overlooked by those who think Johnson can win. His physician who has made an exhaustive study of the returned champion reveals that his ribs protrude to his hip bones where in most men there is the space of a hand's breath at the waist which is not protected. For these and other considerations I pick Jeffries to win."

Opposition Mounts

In the meantime opposition to the fight went unabated. Ministers preached sermons against what they called "Reno's Disgrace," letters poured into editors and protests were heaped upon the mayor and the governor of Nevada imploring them to stop the fight.

The supreme court justices of the State engaged in a controversy as to whether there was anything in the laws of Nevada which would give the governor the right to intercede. Colored churches held prayer services for Johnson's victory.

All Day Prayer

In Hutchinson, Kansas, a holiness evangelist set up a tent seating 1200 and held an all day prayer service for Johnson.

The promoters sought to stage a counter attraction on the morning of the fight by matching Sam Langford (the Boston Tarbaby) and Stanley Ketchel, so they could pick up a lot of the coin already in town, but on the morning of the match Ketchel got drunk and failed to show up.

Drew $250,000

The fight grossed $250,000 with 17,000 persons filling the grand stand and 5,000 more paying from $10 to $15 for standing room.

The fighters were paid $101,000 and a $20,000 bonus. Tex Rickard and his partner split a net of $101,000 after paying off $25,000 incurred in building a stadium in San Francisco before the governor drove them out of California. After the fight the Southern Pacific Railway ran from 35 to 50 trains out of Reno at 15 minute intervals. Others came by horse and buggy and covered wagons. There were no busses in those days and few automobiles.

Tex Rickard had Jack Johnson's automobile confiscated during the training period after Jack was locked up for speeding with the local police chasing him on horseback. He was reported to have been doing 50 miles an hour which was hair-raising in those days.

Recalls Fight

Mrs. Ona Cordell, white, a portly hotel proprietor related to me her experience as a young girl during the fight.

With other girls who worked with her in the local post office, they defied convention and visited both training camps, a bold thing for respectable young women in those days.

They were shocked beyond composure when Farmer Burns, one of Jeffries' trainers announced that Jeffries planned to take off his shirt and strip to the waist and any ladies in the audience who wished to retire could do so before this revolting demonstration took place. Although this was considered a grevious insult to their modesty they remained through the ordeal, but Jeffries' reputation as a gentleman suffered greatly by the lack of consideration.

John L. Sullivan, the former champ was barred from the Jeffries camp because he had made uncomplimentary remarks about him in the papers.

Jeffries was contemptuous of his fans. Frequently he would announce training plans and then go fishing leaving a bulging area to sweat in the sun.

Johnson, on the other hand was popular. If the crowd came after he finished training, he would do it all over again for their benefit. To please his fans he would also play them tunes on the bull fiddle. He was never too busy to shake hands with everybody. On the morning of the fight he was visited by a delegation of representatives who came all the way from Washington to see him.

The only sour note at the Johnson camp was the presence of his white wife, who sat beside the ringside knitting with her fingers sparkling with jewelry to the irritation of both white and colored people alike.

Bet Family Fortune

At the headquarters of the Bartenders Local I bumped into an oldtimer by the name of Ed Comerford who recalled how his father had bet the family home, the farm and all their live stock on Johnson, unbeknowing to his family. The old man won and never struck another lick from that day to this, says Comerford.

Jack Johnson

VIEWS and Reviews

By GEORGE S. SCHUYLER

(This column represents the personal opinion of Mr. Schuyler and in no way reflects the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors)

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 6-22-46

Jack Johnson died as he lived—driving fast cars, immaculately dressed, doing and saying what he pleased, and not trying to please either colored or white folk by acting as they thought a prominent man should act just because he was colored. I remember well the day he knocked out James J. Jeffries in fourteen rounds in 1910 at Reno, Nev., thus winning $120,000, the largest purse ever garnered by a pugilist until the golden era of Jack Dempsey. I rode around the streets of my home town on a bicycle selling newspapers like hot cakes and, like most Negroes, bursting with pride and enthusiasm.

The first Negro to win the heavyweight championship of the world (by knocking out Tommy Burns in fourteen rounds at Sydney, Australia, in 1908) fought from 1899 to 1934, engaging in 109 bouts, winning sixty-nine of the eighty decision fights he fought. It was Jim Corbett's opinion that Johnson was the greatest heavyweight boxer that ever lived. Jimmy Johnston, the great little prizefighter-manager, who died recently, declared that "Nobody ever even hurt the man." He was certainly the cleverest heavyweight boxer the world has seen, and in his prime none of the present crop of heavies could have even touched him, and that includes Joe Louis; because Johnson came up at a time when boxing had not degenerated from an art to a mere slugging party. A master of balance, he could whip a man by merely looking at his feet, and often delighted T. A. Dorgan (Tad), the sport cartoonist by completely turning his back on an opponent when the later was off balance, and kidding with reporters in the press rows.

* * *

Jack Johnson was a rough, tough Texas, chesty, arrogant, fearless and insolent like so many Texans of his class, black and white. He greatly offended white people (a) because he beat all white contestants and became heavyweight champion, (b) because he drove fast, up-to-date automobiles at a time when few white people owned one, (c) because he jeered at his victims while they were floundering to defeat, (d) because he was not as polite, respectful and Uncle Tomish as they thought he should be, but acted like other prizefighters of his time, and (e) because he married three white women after having divorced his first wife, a woman of distant Negro ancestry.

He greatly offended colored people for largely the same reasons. Rising to fame at a time when white terrorism against Negroes was rampant, when there were two or three lynchings every week, and when the Southern States had just enacted laws barring Negroes from the polls, colored folk were fearful of the effect his deportment might have upon them. They would have preferred that he be modest and unassuming, humble and contrite, nice and respectable in order not to rile white people any more than they were at the time. In other words they wanted him to be other than he was (a rough, tough, arrogant, chesty Texas longshoreman) in order to please them, not considering that most prizefighters before and after him were and are of the same type with very, very few exceptions. The prizefight game is a rough, sordid racket (like the bullfighting game—at which, incidentally, Johnson once took a fling, as he did at about every other means of making a living). That many Negroes should expect a man of a certain class to act any different from others of his class simply because he is colored is not only one of the major mysteries but indicates that most colored people have been effectively conditioned by white propaganda. Sat. 6-22-46

The amazing thing is that Jack Johnson was the soft-spoken, usually courteous man that he was, when you consider what he had to overcome in the way of white hatred and an unprecedented campaign of studied hounding. To stop him from making money Federal laws were passed preventing interstate traffic in prizefight films and the transportation of women over State lines for allegedly immoral purposes. Millions of white and black hypocrites who had or aspired to have intimate relations with women of opposite 'race' joined in the howl against him because he did what they did not have the guts to do—marry the women of his choice instead of consorting with them clandestinely.

He was criticized because he escaped for seven years from the trap his enemies had prepared for him, because (like most people in the fight racket) he had his price—as who has not? and because he quite properly criticized Joe Louis' boxing ability, his critics forgetting that his criticism was vindicated when Max Schmeling saw the same flaw that Johnson saw. Louis never was and never will be a great boxer. On the contrary Louis is a great puncher, perhaps the greatest the ring has seen, but he was and is easily hit. In Johnson's prime Louis would have worn himself out trying to lay a glove on the elusive and clever Texan. The same is true of every other contemporary heavyweight because they have all come up in the slugging rather than the boxing school. At 68, Johnson was without a blemish although many of his 109 fights ran over twenty rounds, and his last fight was fought when he was over 50 years old. He kept in good shape to the end.

I lived next door to Jack Johnson and his present wife for about two years, and under my observation his deportment was as good as or a lot better, than most of the doctors, actors, performers and businessmen who lived in the same apartment house.

While his enemies grudgingly admit that he was a great fighter, there is almost unanimous belief that he was immoral. But the Bible says, "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

Dustin' off the NEWS

By LUCIUS C. HARPER

The Defender

JACK JOHNSON WAS THE MOST COLORFUL RING CHARACTER

Chicago, Ill.

JACK Johnson, whose colorful career recently came to an end, was purely an adventurer. He was born with a desire to see things and go places. He was forever on the move. One of his earliest ambitions — when he was 12 — was to see Steve Brodie, the man who made himself famous by leaping from Brooklyn bridge. Hopping a freight train in Galveston, Tex., he satisfied this curiosity by hoboing to New York where he went to the Bowery and mingled with the toughs. Here he met the be-derbied and box-coated Chuck O'Connor, "the mayor," one of Gotham's most picturesque characters, who introduced him to his idol, Brodie. Chuck did more than that: he clothed, fed and sheltered Jack, and down through the years the three became fast friends.

Sat. 6-22-46

Lucius C. Harper

On the move again, Jack became a stable boy around the Back Bay district in Boston to the exclusive society set. Then back to Galveston where he became a dock-wolloper. Here his associates were some of the toughest and hard-boiled men on the waterfront. Fighting was one of the important functions of their existence. And here it was at the age of 15 that he got his first lessons as a fighter. He was forced to take up boxing as a means of self-defense. One of the memorable fights of his early stage in life, he said, was urged on him by his favorite sister Lucy. He had been attacked in the streets by a young man much older and larger than himself. His courage failed him and he was about to flee when his sister came along. She became angry and pushed him into the fray. There was nothing to do but fight, and Jack said he employed all of his youthful boxing skill and finally whipped his antagonist. This, he said, gave him more courage and confidence in himself than any other event in his life. Thereafter he depended entirely on his fists. Defender

* * *

A SHORT time later his reputation as a bruiser went a few notches higher when he whipped the reigning bully of the docks, a hulking big fellow, feared because of his skill and strength as a scrapper. This was a fight made fiercer and bloodier because the two were enraged over the spoils of a dice game. Only a quarter was involved, but since the bully had snatched the coin from Jack and attempted to make off with it, Jack was stirred to a frenzied attack and the two fought a ferocious battle until the bully fell cold from a knockout punch. On the move again, Jack landed in Dallas where he got a job painting buggies. His boss was Walter Lewis, an amateur boxer. For six months Jack manipulated paint brushes and swung boxing gloves with Lewis who taught him the fine arts of the game. Quitting this job, he made serious plans concerning his future career. Chicago, Ill.

He first appeared professionally in the ring at Galveston against John Lee, a local battler of considerable skill and popularity. The bout was staged in an open field. Jack won in 16 hard-fought rounds. Next he whipped Dave Pierson, bully of the town, in an unofficial prize fight. This grew out of a dice game which was raided by the police one Sunday morning. Jack wore his father's long overcoat which checked his running stride and the officers overtook him. Going to the box with Jack, the officers spied Pierson and arrested him also. Pierson accused Jack later as a stool pigeon. Jack replied with the word "liar," and the fight was on. Jack was only 16 and Pierson was a grown and toughened man. But when the end came Pierson was on the ground in dreamland. News of this fight and the downfall of the town's bully spread rapidly. A familiar inquiry for several days was: "Did you hear what 'Lil Arthur' did?" That was the origin of the nickname that the famous cartoonist, "Tad" introduced in the sporting world and that followed Johnson the world over. Sat. 6-22-46

* * *

AFTER he had learned the nooks and crannies of many railroad yards and formed the acquaintance of hordes of unaccommodating freight train crews, he reached Springfield, Ill. An athletic club was staging a bout and was in search of fighters to enter a "battle royal." Jack volunteered. There were four men in the ring beside himself. Jack knocked out each of his four opponents and attracted the attention of Johnnie Connors, the promoter of the show, who brought him to Chicago—his first time in this city which was to accord him much happiness and heartaches—and matched him in his first real professional fight with Klondike, a master performer. Jack lost, but the showing he made convinced the fight fans that Johnson was a man to be watched. Jack was then 17. A few years later, in 1902, he met Klondike again and knocked him out in 13 rounds. From then on he was in big company. Through the years he hewed down all that came his way and took up the trail of the champion, Tommy Burns.

The romances in Johnson's life were many. He married five times, first to Mary Austin, colored; Clara Kerr, colored; Etta Duryea, white; Lucille Cameron, white; and Irene Pineau, white, who survives him. There were, of course, other women in his life who contributed happiness and heartaches. It was Hattie McLay, a New York Irish girl, that actually was the cause of Johnson winning the heavyweight championship of the world. She induced her father to finance Johnson's trip to Australia where he could formally challenge Burns. She was in Sydney with Johnson when he wrestled the championship from Burns, and she acted as his secretary until Belle Schreiber, a Milwaukee girl of German descent, came on the scene. It was the Schreiber girl who was instrumental in sending Johnson to prison on the Mann Act. Leading lawyers of that day stated that Johnson was a victim of racial prejudice more than he was actually guilty. It was the suicide of his first white wife, Etta Duryea, who killed herself in his quarters in Cafe de Champion in E. 31st in Chicago, that put the white world against Johnson and the newspaper boys set out to ruin him, a job which they accomplished very proficiently; not alone with the white world, but with the black world as well.

* * *

JACK Johnson was the most courageous Negro I have ever known. I don't believe he feared any man; in civil life or in the ring. He never admitted defeat, even in the darkest hour of his career. He was friendly and kind. He was the first exponent of liberalism. His democratic ideals shocked white people and frightened the senses out of Negroes. During his colorful career, he walked with the commoner as well as with kings. His life was a full life, and above all a human life. This writer once helped him compile some of the events of his interesting career. He later put it into book form, which was scarcely noticed by the Negro public, but it forms one of the most thrilling

tales of any human's career. He called it "Jack Johnson—In the Ring, and Out." There are some few hundred copies yet available. In one chapter—"The Frame-up for Freedom"—he tells the story of his sell-out to Willard. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, write me.

Praises Jack Johnson; Discusses Jeffries Fight

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 7-27-46

I read the Chicago Defender account of the death of Jack Johnson, one of the all-time ring greats. In fact many consider Johnson the greatest that ever lived. I thought Johnson was a wonderful fighter and champion.

But on the front page picture, it showed Jack Johnson with Jim Jeffries. Well, Jeffries should never have been in the ring that day with Johnson, July 4, 1910. He had retired in 1904 and took 100 lbs. off for the Johnson fight. He weighed 317 lbs. the day they signed articles for the fight in Hoboken, N. J., in 1909 and 217 the day of the fight, July 4, 1910.

When Mike Murphy, trainer for the University of Pennsylvania went out to Reno prior to the Jeffries-Johnson fight in 1910 to Jeffries over in training, he gave out this opinion: If a man has been idle for five years and had then reached the age that Jeffries had then attained, 35, particularly if he had been an athlete, a ridge of fat developed over the kidneys that all the training wouldn't touch and after a brief physical effort, slows a man down and saps his stamina.

I thought that the late Jack Johnson had a peach of a left hand, a great right uppercut, could feint better than any boxer that ever lived, could take it but never had to. I give him all the credit in the world except when he whipped Jim Jeffries and he whipped him fair and square.

But Jeff had been out of the ring for six years and any heavyweight could have defeated him that day. The colored race has produced some of the greatest fighters of all time. The late Peter Jackson, Jack Johnson, George Dixo, featherweight champion of the world; Joe Jeanette, Harry Wells, the late Joe Gans, champion lightweight of the world, the late Jack Blackburn, a great fighter. Joe Wolcott, also an all-time ring great and Henry Armstrong who held three titles—feather, light and welter.

Sam Langford, an uncrowned champ if there ever was one, fought Jack Johnson in Chelsea, Mass. in 1906 and once was enough for Johnson. He knocked Johnson down in that fight and Johnson never met him again. Johnson received the decision but in Johnson's death writeup in the New York Tribune, it said that the majority of newspapers of the country of that day gave Sam Langford the decision.

If Johnson had fought Jeffries in his prime, it would have been the test fight. It would have been a thrill and might have gone either way. In the June issue of Ring Magazine, Johnson names Jeffries as the greatest heavyweight of all time.—Jack Moran, Hartford, Conn.

JACK JOHNSON

A Truly Remarkable Man Who In Passing Leaves a Wealth of Rich Memories

By JOSEPH D. BIBB

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 6-22-46

WHAT a piece of work was Jack! What a tragic and romantic figure! The first man of his race to become the champion of all champions in the fistic arena, was truly a remarkable character. He was a superb specimen of physical manhood and under his shaven skull, a cool and nimble brain did function. Famous the world over, this strange and intriguing man, leaves lessons in living for all humanity to learn.

I saw the champion when he was at the zenith of his glory. I saw him, too, down deep in the depths of the nadir of disaster and defeat. I stood, as a gangling youth, and gazed upon "'Lil Arthur," just a few days after he captured the crown. He was driving down the main street of Atlantic City, at breathless speed, cut-out wide open, with a dazzling beauty seated beside him in his flashing car. I shook hands with him first in Barron Wilkins' famous rendezvous in New York. Later he gave me and a few other young fellows some sound advice in his own Chicago night club, the Cafe De Champion. Jack told us, "Try to be the best in your line, whatever you do. Try to be the best doctor, the best lawyer or the best business man." Flashing his golden smile, he added, "It takes hard work, grim determination and unyielding will-power to get to the top in anything." Jack gave the same advice to young people everywhere he went.

Mr. Bibb

* * *

Jack wanted us to collaborate with him in writing his memoirs. He told us how he had sinned and how he had been sinned against. Hour after hour he sat with us and unfolded his astounding story. Make no mistakes and think of him as being dull and slow-witted, for he possessed a clever and cagey mentality. He admitted that he got dazzled and befuddled with sudden wealth. He confessed that he yielded when tempted by amorous sirens of all races, who became fascinated by his fame and physique. He was fully aware of his weaknesses and likewise cognizant of his tremendous skill and strength. Jack was no fool.

Johnson was compelled to bear the cross of color. His shortcomings were magnified because of the hue of his skin. He took the same and identical fling at life that most of the pugilists and headliners in sports have taken before and after him. In truth he brought no disgrace to the crown and none to his race. John L. Sullivan was never branded as being a disgrace to the Irish people, nor Max Baer to the Jews, nor Galento to the Italians. They were rightfully considered by the public as prize fighters, and they behaved according to the usual custom. So did Jack, but he was colored. That he was persecuted and hounded because of his race, there is no doubt.

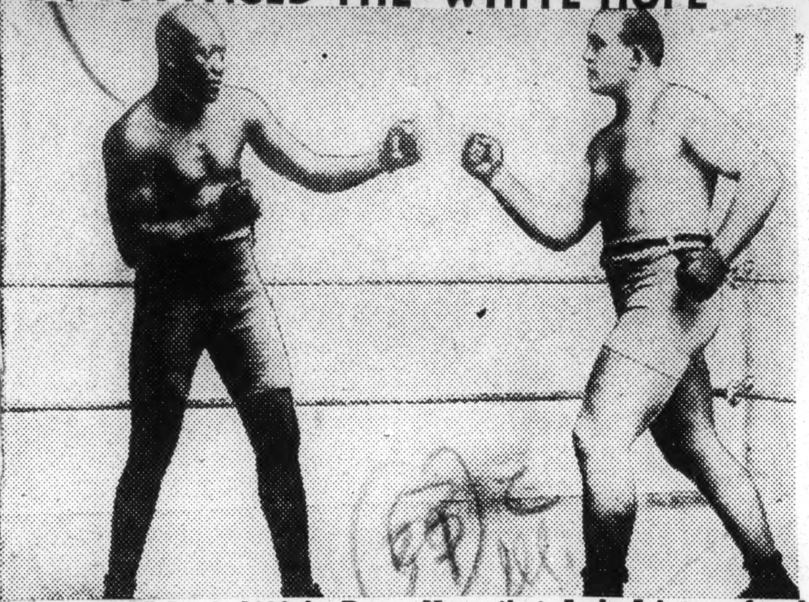
* * *

I WAS in the court room when he was sentenced. Afterwards we heard Judge Julian tell a class in law at Harvard, that he cut Jack's sentence down and gave the reasons why. Jack was no criminal but a victim of racial prejudice and his own understandable frailties. He was the subject of vicious publicity on one hand, but on the other the sports commentators were compelled to admit that he was the greatest defensive fighter of all time. Thereby he brought fame and recognition to his people everywhere.

There will be a long time before another man like Jack will appear upon the scene. His versatility and unconquerable spirit stayed with him even until his death. Jack never quit, despite adversity. He appeared as a bull-fighter in Spain, a strong man in England, a political speaker at home, a band leader and as a promoter. I saw him on Forty-second Street, near Times Square with a flea circus, and Jack still flashed that golden smile. I talked to him an entire afternoon beneath his tent on Coney Island and he told me that even during the depression that he was able to secure good money. True enough, he rebelled against the cruel fates that conjured against him, but Jack still gave out the message, "Tell the boys to be the best in whatever line of endeavor they may choose, and they will at least be good."

Much in the life of Johnson remains for us to ponder over. Much is to be gained. Despite it all, it is still significant that, "the paths of glory lead but to the grave."

AS JACK FACED THE 'WHITE HOPE'



It was on July 4, 1910 in Reno, Nev., that Jack Johnson faced James J. (Jim) Jeffries, under the baking sun of the Nevada desert, to emerge victorious after a vicious battle of 15 rounds. Jeffries had boasted that "one punch in the belly will knock Johnson out." When they entered the ring Jack raised his hands and said "Come on, Jim, here's my belly." Jeffries landed a hard punch in Johnson's mid-section which hardly moved a muscle and only drew a broad grin from Johnson. He then went on to literally tear the "white hope" to pieces and knocked him out in the 15th round.

Former Champ Dixie Auto Victim

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 6-15-46

RALEIGH, N. C.—Jack Johnson is dead!

The first Negro world's heavyweight champion was fatally injured in an automobile accident Monday afternoon while enroute to Franklinton, N. C.

A head-on smash into a telephone pole, when he lost control of his car, ended the colorful career, which set fight fans on their collective ear with an unparalleled series of knockouts and victories, for 27 years. Johnson was champ from 1908 to 1915.

He was rushed to St. Agnes hospital in Raleigh, where he died shortly afterwards. Riding with Johnson at the time of the tragic event was Fred L. Scott, who was only slightly injured, according to early reports.

The ex-champion, whose gay spirit was famous around the world, was known as an expert driver, who loved to travel at high speeds. That this taste remained with him to the end was corroborated by reports that the car he was driving was completely demolished. He was 68 years old.

One of the old champ's last published comments appears above in the Chicago Defender. Johnson predicted that Joe Louis' knockout punch would save him the championship in the Billy Conn bout.

The ex-champ, whose full name was John Arthur Johnson, was born in Galveston, Texas, March 31, 1878. Chicago, Ill.

Johnson came to Chicago in 1899. His first fame was won in a six-man battle royal at the old Tattersall arena, 16th and State sts., where Jack, also known as "Lil Arthur," knocked out four of his opponents. As he turned on the fifth, that anonymous but wise battler leaped from the ring.

George Siler, famous referee of that era, who was supervising the battle, turned to a ring attendant and prophetically said:

"With a good trainer, there's the next heavyweight champion of the world." Sat. 6-15-46

Nine years later on Dec. 26, 1908 Johnson defeated Tommy Burns at Sydney, Australia and donned the crown of the champion.

Following is a year by year account of Johnson's ring career:

1901—He won his first match against John Lee in 15 rounds. The same year he won five other fights.

1902—Johnson knocked out Klondike who had defeated him in Chicago on May 6, 1899 in six rounds. He won 12 fights this year, five of them by knockouts.

1903—Johnson won five fights, one by a knockout.

1904—Johnson emerged victorious in five fights.

1905—Six victories.

1906—Five victories.

1907—Six victories, four by knockouts.

1908—Johnson won all three of his major fights including a victory and the world's title from Tommy Burns in Sydney, Australia in 14 rounds.

1909—Johnson won over Victor MacLaghlen, later a Hollywood star, at Vancouver, B. C., and knocked out Stanley Ketchel.

1910—Johnson knocked out James J. Jeffries July 4 in Reno, Nev. The bout lasted 15 rounds.

1915—Johnson started on the down grade when he lost the world's heavyweight title to Jess Willard in 26 rounds in Havana, Cuba.

His last official fight was on May 30, 1926 when he was fouled by Bob Lawson in Jaurez, Mexico in eight rounds.

Defender

Jack Johnson in the heyday of his glory—1912.
—Courtesy of Galveston Daily News

Large Crowd Witnesses Final Rites For Johnson

By LUTHER A. TOWNSLEY

CHICAGO — (ANP) — An overflow and at times unruly crowd, composed of members of both races, packed Pilgrim Baptist church here Friday morning to witness final rites for Jack (Little Arthur) Johnson, 68, first Negro heavyweight boxing champion of the world. Johnson was killed a week ago Monday in an automobile accident near Franklinton, N. C.

The ex-champion's body arrived here Thursday morning and was taken immediately to Charlie Jackson's Funeral home where a mixed cross-section of spectators stood in line under the watchful eye of police guards until 1:30 the next morning for a final glance at the man who defied conventions more than once in his colorfully turbulent career.

Only the dramatic appearance of his immediate family halted temporarily the moving line. Mrs. Irene Johnson, his white widow, expressed a wish to spend a few minutes in solitude with her husband. A similar request was made by his sisters, Miss Lucy Johnson and Mrs. Fanny Romaine.

Before the body of the late Jack Johnson was committed to the earth, he was eulogized by the Rev. J. C. Austin, pastor of Pilgrim Baptist church here, as "a courageous fighter," a characteristic that won him the admiration of his wife.

"I admired, I loved him," she said, "because of his courage." He faced the world unafraid. There wasn't anybody or anything he feared."

"He struck the first blow as the heavyweight champion," Rev. Austin reminded the milling audience, "and had it not been for a fighter like Jack, there might not have been a fighter like Joe."

He stressed "the importance of courage. Life is a conflict," he said. "It is a struggle. It is a fight from birth to death. Man is the product of a struggle. He was created out of a restless, revolving, rotating world of matter, and for him here there is no rest. And to make it through, one must have courage. Courage of your own convictions. Courage to live your life. Courage to keep going in spite of contrary winds, strong foes and bitter experiences. Courage to keep going in spite of deception, prejudice, hatred, malice and vicious hypocrisy."

Rev. Austin told how the deceased champion came to him after one of his darkest moments when he was pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist church in Pittsburgh, joined his church and transferred his membership to Pilgrim. "I knew Jack," said Rev. Austin.

Beside his widow and two sisters, Johnson is survived by two brothers, two nieces, one nephew, three grand nieces and three grand nephews. The champion married four times during his lifetime. Two of his wives were Negroes and two were whites. His harsh public criticism of Negro women earned him many enemies.

Only six floral pieces decorated the expensive casket as it sped toward its final resting place at Graceland cemetery, where only a few Negroes are buried.

"Goodbye Jack," screamed his wife. "We had the most wonderful life together. He was good, he was generous, kind and loving."

Galveston Old Timers Recall Memories Of Famed Jack Johnson

GALVESTON—The death of Jack Johnson Monday released a stream of memories and reminiscences among his old-timers here. No close relatives of Johnson remain in Galveston unless there are nieces or nephews somewhere about. When Jack became famous he moved his widowed mother and his family to Chicago where they died and are buried, an old friend of his explained.

An elderly lady who had lived in the next block to the Johnsons as a child related a couple of incidents on Jack's career. One of these recounted the fighting done in the Johnson family. According to Mrs. Taylor, Jack had a sister named Lucy who was a great fighter. "She and Jack used to fight all the time. She could really slam Jack around and when he first started out to be a boxer, Lucy was his sparring partner."

The old lady commented on stories appearing in the Galveston Daily News about Jack's career, "All that's true they are saying about him, how he went to school in Galveston and worked on the docks as a stevedore."

"The man they say gave him his start really did, but they didn't say how he and Jack got acquainted. It was in jail. Jack got in a little trouble, you know like boys will, and got arrested. While he was in jail he met this man and they used to box in jail. When they got out the man started an athletic club and started training Jack."

Another old Galvestonian had attended school with Jack. She told of a quarrel with Jack. It happened over a knife. She carried her knife to school to play mumbly-peg and forgot and left it in her desk. Jack's father was janitor of the school they attended. Somehow or other Jack got my knife and I came along the street and saw him sitting on the corner whittling. I said 'Jack, let me see your knife.' He gave it to me and I said, 'Jack this is my knife and you know it.' He said he was going to take it away from me. I said, 'Don't you try, got the knife now.' I always remember what he said then, 'All right, but there's more ways to kill a dog besides hanging him.'"

The old champion was dead and his remaining friends of yesteryear were exchanging their memories of him. They said he never was a hand for writing and that he didn't keep in touch with his childhood friends, although when he came to Galveston, he'd come by and visit them.

RALPH McGILL

'Lil' Arthur' Was Strictly No Good

When I saw where "Lil Arthur," Jack Johnson, had died in a Raleigh hospital, crushed internally in an automobile accident, I recalled two things—

How sorry I felt, as a grade school youngster, for Jim Jeffries on July 4, 1910, when Johnson beat him . . .

And, years later, talking with Jess Willard, the big, slow giant from Kansas who won from Johnson in a fixed fight at Havana, Cuba, in 1915—a "fix" the Kansan didn't know about until long after Dempsey had battered him into a bleeding hulk.

"You never got much out of it did you, Jess?" I asked.

"My God, Mr. McGill," he said, "the things they could do to a man . . . one day I hope I can say . . ."

The fight racket has never been too sanitary. No DDT has ever been invented to clean up all the vermin in it. But it reached a low with Jack Johnson and, years later, with Primo Carnera. Although, at that, I never really thought the amiable "Eye-talian" called most aptly by Bill McGeehan "The Tall Tower of Gorgonzolo," knew anything about the "fixes" that provided the rungs in the ladder he climbed to the title. He always thought well of himself, did Primo Carnera.

I guess that "Lil' Arthur" was probably the best boxer since Gentleman Jim Corbett. No one will ever know, but he probably was an even better boxer than Eugene Tunney, who was awfully good at the "manly art of modified murder," a fact his detractors never let get around any too well. Johnson was a fighting machine, a great one. But he was a fourth-rate human being.

Cruel

In his last years he went around saying he could have beat Joe Louis in a round, that Louis was a built-up product. He was cruel and false in his estimates of all others. He was never modest and he was always a low-down, lying, untrustworthy person. Members of his own race hated to see him come around and were embarrassed by him.

I talked with him once a long time ago. He was ready to blame everyone but himself. He was a whining braggart. He had left not a sign of self-respect or honor or integrity and he knew all that better than anyone else. That is why he was what he was.

He couldn't take prosperity. He had diamonds set in his teeth. He had to have the loudest automobile and the most vulgar display. He had to get mixed up in the vice rackets and the underworld—all this after he won the title. No one forced him in that direction. He took it.

Even after that he suffered from a persecution complex. The government had been unkind to him, the boxing people had betrayed him, his friends had let him down . . . and so on. The truth was, he had no friends. And he deserved none.

All the boxers of his time thought that Sam Langford, "The Boston Tarbaby," was a better boxer and a better fighter. They knew he was a better man. "Lil' Arthur" would never fight him. They met only once. "Lil' Arthur" was sounding off in a saloon. Sam Langford came in and met him, eye to eye. It was Johnson

who closed up and walked out of the saloon. Langford's career was tragic, always just short of a real chance.

But, men who saw Johnson at his best, say he was the best defensive fighter they ever saw. He could catch punches in his big paws and toss them aside, calling out derisively, "Jes' like a bunch of grapes."

6-16-46

When he met Jim Jeffries in Reno, Nev., in a fight promoted by the gambler, Tex Rickard, he was at his best. Jefferies had been out of the ring for six years and had been in retirement on his California farm. It wasn't much of a fight. It wasn't particularly brutal. It was all Johnson. He jabbed Jefferies into a bloody, exhausted, helpless, middle-aged man.

Out of that fight came a phrase which has become a part of the national vocabulary.

Jack Johnson's mother, "Tiny" Johnson, listened to the fight returns on a New York stage where a telegraph ticker brought the news. When Johnson had won, she clapped her hands and remarked: "He said he'd bring home the bacon and the honey boy has gone and done it."

There were statesmen and kings in 1910, but "bring home the bacon" has outlasted anything they said or wrote. Thirty-six years later it still is going strong.

After that fight a great movement began to outlaw prize fights. It was joined by one against the movies—sponsored by the Christian Endeavor Societies. The proposed putting a ban on all "spooning" scenes in movies and to bar all films which depicted kissing on the part of any "except relatives and married persons."

This was 1910—July.

Next week in New York Joe Louis, who has been a real credit to himself, his race, his country and the prize ring business, will fight Billy Conn, a second-rater who once went 15 rounds with him.

They are all sod and thousands of requests for seats are of necessity being returned along with enclosed checks and money orders.

Ringside seats are $100.

Current movie hit is Lana Turner in "The Postman Always Rings Twice," in which Miss Turner kisses and is kissed by a gentelman friend. No relative, he.

In this corner

Jack Johnson Deserved Fairer Tribute

By Bill Mardo

There's been a slewful of slime written about Jack Johnson by way of "tribute" to the great Negro fighter who died earlier this week from injuries sustained in an auto crash.

While at the Louis-Conn camps we were unable to do this farewell bit on the late "little Arthur"—but what should be said must be said, and after all, the time element isn't the most vital aspect of this issue.

JACK JOHNSON

Jack Johnson was a truly great heavyweight. Some say he was the greatest ever, others call him the finest defensive machine the big class ever produced. But regardless of who says what, the huge, magnificently proportioned Johnson will always be included in any roundup of the five greatest heavyweights of all time. On that score, there probably is unanimous agreement.

But it's when they start discussing Johnson the man, that all respect for the late champion's fisticuffing talent goes flying out the window and one sees a wholesale slaughtering of his personality. I was shocked to see several of the most competent sports-writers join this general diatribe after Jack died several days ago. Stupid stories have a way of being nurtured along down through the years, and the ones handed out about Johnson during his heyday still gain widespread currency among the writers today, most of whom never even got to know the man involved.

Friday 6-14-46

Jack Johnson became the first Negro heavyweight champion at a time when the social-political atmosphere in America was far rougher for Negroes than it is today—and only a damn fool would think the race of Robeson and Louis are having a picnic of it in these "enlightened"

He was slandered, vilified, misrepresented and hounded from one end of the country to the other. When Johnson bought a sporty new car, more often than not he was being jailed for "speeding." When he ran a niteclub-cabaret in Chicago, he was accused on phony white-slavery charges. Because he preferred to flaunt the economic equality his flying fists brought him rather than kow-tow to the white supremacists of his day, Jack Johnson became a despised man.

And one must never forget that there was no vast labor movement or Communist Party during Johnson's time to show the way, to lead the fight against jimcrow and educate the masses as to the source and purpose of jimcrow and the need for militant struggle against the vicious anti-Negro propaganda.

Now it's true that Jack Johnson made mistakes, but what man hasn't? It's also true that Johnson missed the boat with his rather confused animosity toward Joe Louis. But it's not my job here to make an angel out of a big, strapping guy who needed no one else to do any defending for him.

Jack Johnson deserved a far better break during his lifetime. And a far better tribute when he died.

Friday 6-14-46 New York

SPORT WEEK

John Arthur Johnson

Newsweek New York, N.Y.

by JOHN LARDNER

A lot of people whose judgment I respect think that Jack Johnson, who died last week, was the greatest heavyweight fighter of all time—the greatest heavyweight champion, at least. There were a few men, Sam Langford and Joe Jeannette among them, whom Johnson declined to fight after he won his title, and they might have been able to beat him; but it should be remembered that they were colored men, and Johnson had no financial interest in meeting them, nor was he much encouraged to do so by the promoters of those times, whose chief interest was in evolving a "white hope."

The white hope whom Johnson, at the age of 37, eventually agreed to accommodate was Jess Willard. Willard, when Johnson died, paid high tribute to his talent, saying among other things that he could have handled Joe Louis and Billy Conn simultaneously; but no man likes to knock himself, and speaking of the fight in which he won the title from Johnson in Havana, in 1915, Jess simply said, with a bland look: "I hit him a good uppercut."

Very few people outside of Willard believe this, and maybe Jess doesn't either. A nephew of Johnson's, who lived with the champion while he trained for Willard, bet $5,000 to $8,000 on Willard. That was the kind of fight it was. Johnson had a desperate need to take care of himself economically at the time he surrendered his championship.

So he made his bargain at Havana, and as usual he was double-crossed—this time on motion-picture rights. The year before, fighting another white man, Frank Moran, in Paris, he worked for nothing because the promoter, angry at Moran, tied up every sou of the gate receipts. It is hard today—though by no means impossible—to realize how ruthlessly and brazenly Negro fighters were manipulated and cheated by cheating and prejudice, or adapting himself meekly to circumstances, as Langford and other great fighters did, he resisted. He insisted on meeting his fellow human beings as an equal—which, in view of his character and preeminence in his field of work, was a fairly modest demand.

While he was defeated on nearly every point at issue in this long, contentious career, he never gave up. He died full of the same dignity and self-respect which supported him all his life and which, construed as vanity and cockiness by the press and the public, made him a deep-dyed villain in his native land as long as he was remembered.

There was a good deal of simple vanity in Johnson, too. In his autobiography he told of how a German zeppelin, in the early stages of the first world war, spotted him from above in the London streets and followed him around, twisting and turning to get a direct hit on Johnson. When he announced that he was rewriting "Othello," or when he sat in a Paris café with a beret on his head, sipping beer through a straw, he was displaying a deep, and I should say harmless, interest in showing the man Johnson to the public in a distinctive way.

Even in Professor Huber's flea circus on 42nd Street in New York, where Johnson exhibited himself for a few years in the 1930s in order to make bread and beer money, he was dignified, aloof, and untouched by his surroundings.

"Whenever you write about me," he told me once, "just please remember that I'm a man, and a good one."

As a professional fighter, Johnson was so notable for defensive skill and science that it is sometimes forgotten how tremendously strong he was, and how hard he could hit when in Johnson's time. This fact and Johnson's reaction to it do a great deal to explain the almost chronic suspiciousness and peevishness of his manner, which in turn help to account for his unpopularity with the American public in his heyday.

Johnson, whom I saw quite often in the last fifteen years, was a proud man, as well as a man of intelligence and dignity. Instead of being subdued he wanted to. Anti-Johnsonites emphasize the time the smaller Stanley Ketchel knocked him down, in Colma, Calif., in 1909. The fight was an exhibition, and Ketchel was double-crossing Johnson in the fashionable way when he hit him as hard as possible on the chin. Johnson reacted to the double-cross as he always did when he could. He rose and knocked Ketchel unconscious. He was, as he said, a man. He never wanted anyone to forget it.

Monday 6-24-46 Newsweek

Auto Crash Is Fatal To Jack Johnson, 68, Ex-Boxing Champion

Times-Dispatch

RALEIGH, N. C., June 10—(AP)—Jack Johnson, former heavyweight champion of the world, died at Saint Agnes Hospital here of injuries suffered in an automobile accident near Franklinton early this afternoon.

Dr. W. D. Allison said that the 68-year-old Negro died from internal injuries and shock.

The accident occurred just south of Franklinton city limits which is about 20 miles north of Raleigh on United States Highway No. 1.

Johnson was reported to have lost control of the big automobile he was driving, causing it to crash into a light pole and overturn.

Fred L. Scott, also a Negro, who was riding with him, was slightly injured.

Tues. 6-11-46

Johnson Won Title From Burns

By The Associated Press

The boxing career of Jack Johnson, first Negro heavyweight champion of the world, lasted 29 years. He fought in 109 major fights and exhibitions—two of which made pugilistic history.

The first of these was the successful defense of his title against Jim Jeffries at Reno, Nevada, July 4, 1910, the original "Battle of the Century;" the second was the much-disputed bout at Havana Cuba, April 16, 1915, when he lost to Jess Willard.

Many experts classified 'Li'l Artha" as one of the greatest fighters in the history of the ring, one of its cleverest defensive boxers. But his prowess was detined to be eclipsed by the law.

Riches went to his head, he spent lavishly and wound up his years dismally, traveling from place to place, picking up a living where he could. What little popularity he had disappeared years before.

Won 69 Fights

His career began in 1899 and ended in 1928. He won 69 of his 80 decision bouts. In 29 fights and exhibitions there was no decision or draws.

Johnson was coming along fast when he won the heavyweight title from Tommy Burns, of Canada, on Dec. 26, 1908. The fight was held at Rushcutter's Bay, just outside Sydney, Australia. Burns was the favorite, but the big Negro gave him a sound beating and wes declared the winner on a technical knockout in the fourteenth round after police raided the fight.

Despite the conclusive victory, many considered Johnson's title a tainted one. Burns had won his title from Marvin Hart at San Francisco and Johnson's critics pointed out that Hart had beaten "Li'l Artha" in 20 rounds in the same city in 1905.

Clamor for White Hope

During 1909 Johnson defended his title five times. The sporting world clamored for a "white hope." Finally, Jim Jeffries, five years out of the ring, yielded to pressure and signed to fight him at Reno. Tex Rickard promoted the fight and made his first bid for fame as one of the sport's greatest promoters.

Jeffries worked himself down from 260 to 230 pounds for the fight and nearly ruined his health in the process. Johnson, a fine physical specimen of 210 pounds, at his peak, toyed with the burly former champion. He taunted him continuously, hit him at will with murderous punches and finally knocked him out in the fifteenth round. The victory was no popular in many section of the country and there were racial disputes.

Havana Fiasco

Five years later, Willard won the crown at Havana and created a controversy that raged for years. Williard after absorbing teriffic punishment for most of the fight, won by a knockout in the twenty-sixth round. The pictures clearly showed the Negro shading his eyes from the tropical Cuban sun with a gloved hand as Referee Jacy Curley counted him out.

The boxing world resounded to cries of a "fixed" fight. It was known that Jack had received $30,000, while Jess got nothing. Later, oJhnson confessed he had "thrown" the fight and still later repudiated the "confession."

At the time oJhnson was in a desperate mental condition. He was financially embarrassed, a fugitive from the United States, an "undesirable alien" in many European countries.

During the lush years after the Jeffries fight he had plenty of unsavory troubles. After his first wife divorced him he announced that "only white women are worthwhile." In 1910 he married a white divorcee of Brooklyn, N. Y. That touched off a wave of bitter racial feeling throughout the country. She committed suicide a year later.

Arrested in Chicago

In 1911, Johnson opened a cafe in Chicago. The place became notorious. Watch and Ward societies investigated his activities and a year later he was arrested, charged with violating the Mann ("White Slave") Act.

He tried to forestall prosecution by marrying the principal witness against him, a white woman. That effort failed; he was convicted and sentenced to a year and a day in Leavenworth Prison. Pending appeal, he jumped bail of $15,000 an descaped to Paris via Montreal. He was no stranger to Europe, but the happy days when he could and did, spend $20,000 a week were gone.

He made small sums by fighting second-raters in Paris. When the world war came along he was asked to join the French army but fled to Spain. While there, he was induced to go to Havana for the Willard fiasco.

Returned to Spain

In the money again he returned to Spain, went broke again and fought all comers in Madrid. Followed drifting years to Mexico, the Argentine and Brazil.Finally, he surrendered to United States marshals at San Diego, Cal., on July 20, 1920 and went to Leavenworth.

Richmond, Va.

In prison he was permitted to train and give boxing exhibitions. Released July 9, 1921, he immediately returned to the ring. But he had passed his prime and seven years later he quit the ring in a six-round fight with Bill Hartwell in Kansas City.

Jack Johnson

Post

It would certainly be interesting to know by what process of reasoning or elimination you decided to devote editorial space of June 14 to the late Jack Johnson.

It seems ridiculous to me that a newspaper would publish what amounts to a eulogy of a man who, from first to last, did his best to degrade his profession.

When one thinks of all the numerous national and international subjects and personalities, any one of which might form the basis of an interesting and instructive editorial, your choice of a self-admitted crooked prize fighter, whose life was almost one continuous debauch, makes me question the value of my subscription to your publication and your value to the community as a leader of any sort of constructive thought.

V. N.

Bethesda, Md.

Pickens Reminisces On Jack Johnson

Informer Houston Texas 6-22-46 Sat.

By WILLIAM PICKENS For ANP

I remember when Jack took the heavyweight championship from Tommy Burns in 1908.

I remember that the next year (1909) he had to defend his title eight or nine times against the many "white hopes" who were thrust at him in an effort to get the title back. Such was the racial complex.

And I especially remember the ballyhoo of 1910 when Jack was to fight the great Jim Jeffries, who had retired as undefeated champion to the security of a farm in the southwest. Such was the racial feelings at the time that many people were resolved never to recognize Johnson's rightful possession of the title until and unless he should beat James Jeffries. The hopes and heart of a great race and all its pride were bound around Jim—and the pride and hopes of another race were tied to Jack.

The day before the fight I picked up the Atlanta Consitution, great paper of the south, and saw two full page pictures, one of Jack and the other of Jim, giving all their measurements: biceps, chests, thighs, legs, calves, arm lengths, chest expansions, etc. And (believe it or not, people) that great newspaper said something which to this day indicates to me that the editors had a conviction that the fight was "fixed,"—or else they never would have said it. As I remember it, these were the words, but you can look in the files and find it for yourself:

"Tomorrow there will take place at Reno, (Nevada) the greatest battle of the century, which will determine whether the white race or the black race is superior.

Of course, that last clase is both scientifically, and in all other ways foolish. No individual contest of that kind, or of any other kind could be relied upon to determine any such thing. But, to those editors, it was (most centainly!) all fixed, and the day after the fight they could have great sport concluding that the white race is superior.

But—came July 5, the day after the fight, and I looked again into the Atlanta Constitution, and (between me and heaven), this is what I found, among the "shorts" in the editorial column:

"Well, it was just a brute fight, and the biggest brute fight, and the biggest brute won."

Then Jack set forth on the most treacherous career ever run by a Negro sportsman: He was framed by the police, he was driven into exile, he was ridiculed, and propagandized against—and hated. And he was foolish—and boyish — and without wisdom or much reserve. He talked big, boasted and made good, and always came out the winner, whoever the opponent. He joked, guyed, and razzed his opponents unmercifully, just as he had done when in the ring with Jim Jeffries, where, when Jim got into the famous 'grizzly bear' stoop, Jack said, stepping back and dropping his arms: "Whut you call that, Jim. Oh, that's that grizzly bear pose they say you get into. Well, never mind, I'll get you out of that,"—and wham! would go an uppercut—and Jeffries was immediately straightened up out of his famous stoop.

When Jack was abroad, with much fame and little money, we sent many emissaries of our race-feelings to get the championship back. "White Hope" became almost a common noun of our everyday dictionaries. Finally, Moran, a likely-looking red-headed fighter, was sent over to Paris. How game that boy fought, and how badly beaten he was is known to all who lived at that time. Jack, always good natured and jolly, carried on in the ring: "So, you the 'white hope,' are you? Well, when I get through with you, you will look like a wreck," — and wham would come a blow. Then: "You red-headed little kid, I have a mind to punch your nose and send you back to your mama,"— and again a whacking uppercut.

Poor Moran was so badly beaten that he never really got over it; he left the fighting ring and all its business. But he always respected, almost worshpped Jack Johnson. Years later when Moran was in charge of recreation among the many thousands of workmen at Boulder (then Hoover) dam in Nevada, near Las Vegas, he sent for Jack and they got a big "gate" between them, spar-boxing for the entertainment of the 5,000 or more men. There was never any bitterness over the old-time battle and defeat in Moran's heart or head. Moran was not a society leader or religious leader—he was a sportsman, a boxer, a gambler in his chosen profession—and wider-minded than the average churchman of any race.

Now Jack has lost his last battle, with an auto in North Carolina. He met his only opponent that could give him "the marks of battle."

Jack Johnson Dies In Auto Upset

The final ten-count sounded over one of the finest fighting machines of all time Monday night when Jack Johnson, first Negro heavyweight champion of the world, succumbed in St. Agnes Hospital, Raleigh, NC, of injuries suffered in an automobile accident that afternoon. Johnson, 68, died at 6:10 pm, two hours after the car he had been driving overturned and crashed into a pole on a highway near Franklinton, NC, twenty miles north of Raleigh.

With Johnson in the car was Fred L. Scott, who was taken to the hospital where his injuries were pronounced "slight." Scott, a traveling companion of Johnson and former sparring partner of Joe Louis, said that the two were returning to New York following an extensive personal appearance tour of the deep South. Johnson was going back to resume his daily appearances at Hubert's Museum, 228 W. 42 st, where he has lectured and answered questions intermittently since 1937.

According to Scott, they were driving along US highway No. 1 at about 55 miles per hour when Johnson lost control. The car skidded, overturned, and crashed into a pole.

Johnson died fighting, Scott told reporters. "I've got to lick this, just like I've licked a lot of fighters in the past," Johnson gasped when the end was near, Scott attests.

Johnson was badly shaken up by the crash, and complained often about the pain he was suffering in his back. Upon arrival at the hospital, where he was rushed by ambulance, he was, according to Dr. W. S. Clark, attending physician, "unconscious, in shock, cold, clammy, and badly battered." Dr. W. D. Allison said that Johnson died of internal injuries and shock.

Notification was immediately sent to Johnson's widow, Mrs. Irene Johnson of Chicago. It is believed that the body will be sent to Chicago for burial.

JACK BEGINS CAREER

Johnson became the first Negro heavyweight champion when be won the title December 26, 1908 on a fourteenth-round kayo over Tommy Burns at Sydney, Australia. Johnson, who had run up an impressive string of victories, followed Burns, a Canadian and the world's heavyweight champion, to England and Austrialia before he was successful in getting the match.

It was almost no contest, for the spectacular Galveston fighter virtually chopped the champion to bits with his dynamite-laden punches. Police halted the slaughter in the fourteenth, and Johnson was pronounced heavyweight champion of the world.

Johnson as champion fought often and, with the exception of Sam Langford, "the Boston Tar Baby," met all comers. He retained the title seven years, losing it to Jess Willard in Havana, Cuba on April 5, 1915. Twenty-five years later Johnson maintained that he "threw" the fight, and that he allowed Willard to "kayo" him in the 26th round for a payment of $50,000.

HUNT FOR "WHITE HOPE"

When it was apparent that Johnson was a superb fighter who had few equals, the famous drive for "a white hope" began. Incredibly cocky, and a man who lived loosely and lavishly, Johnson was not the type of champion who was idolized. He affected flashy clothes, threw money

JACK JOHNSON as he appeared a few months ago when he visited the PV office.

around with abandon, and liked to drive racing cars at breakneck speed. He entertained lavishly, traveled widely, and was usually in the company of white women, two of whom he married.

KAYOS JEFFRIES

Johnson's first battle of note after taking the championship was with Stanley Ketchel, world middleweight champion, at Colma, California in 1909. Ketchel, who pressed Johnson, even putting the champion down for the count of eight, was flattened in the twelfth round. All of Ketchel's front teeth were left imbedded in Johnson's glove.

The search for a white hope to dethrone 'Li'l Arthur,' as Johnson was dubbed, caused Jim Jeffries, who had retired undefeated, to face Johnson in Reno on July 4, 1910. Said to have "carried the prayers of the nation with him" when he entered the ring, Jeffries lasted but fifteen rounds before he was knocked out.

Following the Jeffries fight, Johnson never again fought in the United States. Wanted on a federal charge involving the transportation of a white woman from Pittsburgh to Chicago, Johnson fled to foreign soil, where he fought for seven years.

JACK LOSES CROWN

In 1915 he consented to fight Willard for the crown. The picture of Johnson being counted out, as he apparently shades his eyes from the sun, bears out somewhat the claim that Jack threw the fight.

Jack fought sporadically thereafter, and in 1920 surrendered to federad marshals at the border in Mexico. He served a year and 3 days in Leavenworth, Kansas, after which he resumed his boxing career, which he lengthened out for some years with exhibitions and boxing instruction.

Perhaps motivated by envy of Louis who became the second Negro to hold the heavyweight crown, Johnson frequently predicted that Louis would lose.

Johnson was born at Galveston, Texas on March 31, 1876, and was named John Arthur Johnson. His father was a janitor and part-time preacher.

AVOIDS PRISON TERM

Johnson, divorced by his first wife, married Etta Duryea, a white woman from Brooklyn who later committed suicide. Shortly afterward he was charged with violating the Mann Act. Lucille Cameron, a nineteen-year-old Minnesota girl was to have been the principal witness against the fighter. Before the trial took place in the spring of 1913, Johnson married the Cameron girl, thereby ruling out her testifying at the trial. Sentenced to a year and a day in Federal prison, Johnson slipped out of the country disguised as a baseball player and went abroad.

CAREER VIGNETTES

Johnson carried a small fortune in gold in his mouth, for his teeth were crusted with the costly metal . . . Tad Dorgan, late cartoonist, was said to have dubbed Johnson "Li'l Arthur" . . . In his late years Jack wore a blue beret . . . One story of the Willard fight is that Jack waited until his wife in the stands signalled that she had collected the money he was to receive before he fell to the canvas, rolled over on his back, shielded his eyes from the sun, and allowed himself to be counted out.

The $120,000 that Johnson received for the Jeffries fight was the largest purse ever paid a boxer.

Jack Johnson

In point of professional ability, John Arthur Johnson, who was killed last Monday in an automobile accident near Raleigh, N. C., was surely one of the greatest heavyweight fighters that ever entered a ring. He was a boxer of great virtuosity and cunning and a puncher of immense power, thus combining in himself the respective virtues of the Messers. Conn and Louis. On the moral side, it cannot be said that he added any great tone to the profession, or that he was any distinguished ornament to his race.

At the same time it must be admitted that most of the hue and cry against him was the expression of mere prejudice and that much the most of whatever real harm he did in his life was to himself.

Certainly, he seems not to have been a bad fellow intrinsically—just a loud, flashy, good-natured Galveston roustabout, who worked intermittently as a stevedore before he was discovered by the manager of a local fight club, and before he discovered his own great appetite for luxury and fast living. The crisis in his destiny seems to have come after he was matched against the late Joe Choynski, the famous "California Terror." Until then, Li'l Arthuh, as he was called in Galveston, had no great dreams of wealth or fame, and was happy enough to fight anybody, anywhere for the price of some more elegant new clothes or a few more gold inlays for his front teeth. Choynski, who had fought Sullivan, Maher, Corbett, Fitzsimmons and Jeffries, was making short work of Li'l Arthuh just as the local sheriff came to stop the fight. The principals were arrested, convicted of violating some local ordinance and sent to jail for 30 days. There the great Choynski amused himself by teaching his arts to Li'l Arthuh. To these Johnson gradually added what he learned for himself in the ring from such redoubtable adversaries as Marvin Hart, Sam Langford, Sam McVey and Joe Jeannette. In 1908 he became world's champion by defeating the Canadian Tommy Burns in a bout at Sydney, Australia, that had to be stopped for humanitarian reasons in the fourteenth round.

This victory, however, won him no favor among his own countrymen, who were indeed outraged by the notion that a Negro should be champion of the world. But since he had come by the title quite lawfully, and since, after he defeated Stanley Ketchell, there was no white challenger who seemed capable of standing up to him, the champion emeritus, Jim Jeffries, was persuaded to come out of retirement to vindicate the principle of white supremacy. The Jeffries-Johnson fight at Reno on July 4, 1910, promoted by the late Tex Rickard, was the first of these modern circus-style championship matches, preceded by an elaborate newspaper ballyhoo and attended by celebrities from all over the country.

However, Jack Johnson eventually lost the championship to Jess Willard in Cuba. The fight went on listlessly for 22 rounds, until Li'l Arthuh suddenly fell and lay quietly on the canvas, shielding his eyes with one gloved hand from the glare of the tropical sun, while the referee counted 10. No one could remember having seen the blow that felled him. Meanwhile a series of amorous adventures had made him a fugitive from his own country until he returned voluntarily to serve out a prison sentence. Nor was all this notoriety of much help to him in later life when he wandered about trying to pick up a living as best he could, now by giving boxing exhibitions, now as extra in opera spectacles, now as an itinerant evangelist, and, finally, as a spieler in a dime museum.

Johnson Given Speeding Ticket Day of Death

Columbia, June 12.—(AP): Former Heavyweight Boxing Champion Jack Johnson, who died after a North Carolina traffic accident, was given a warning ticket for speeding earlier the same day by a South Carolina highway patrolman in Aiken county.

Patrolman J. C. Frederick said he stopped Johnson's car on a charge that it was being driven at an excessive speed. Johnson identified himself, and the patrolman issued the ticket.

The same night, Monday, the former champion's car crashed near Raleigh, N. C., causing his death.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 98

Louis Methodical, Conn Appears Overtrained During AFRO Visit to Camps of Two Rivals for June 19 Bout

Afro-American

By SAM LACY, AFRO Sports Editor

POMPTON LAKES, N.J. — A slow - moving, methodical Joe Louis, who took much from four sparring partners while dishing out comparatively little in return, was none too impressive in workouts for his June 19 championship bout with Billy Conn, last week.

The Bomber

But, while he showed nothing of the form he displayed on the last visit of the AFRO to his training camp here early this month, this reporter found no justification for the general alarm which spread over the spectators on Thursday afternoon when the Bomber moved outdoors for the first time, and on Saturday when he took part in another disappointing exhibition.

As a matter of fact, it was the impression in this corner that the champion was diligently studying, mapping plans for overcoming advantages enjoyed by a foeman with a good left hand. And, in doing so, Louis appeared to be content with occupying the receiver's role and not bothering too much about punishing his adversaries. 6-1-46

Good Left Hands

Three of Joe's four sparring partners are experts with their left hands. Al Hoosman, Jimmy Bell and Perk Daniels jab with the precision of artists, and the first two are adept at the business of jabbing and moving out, much after the fashion of Conn.

In the six-round stint on Thursday, the champion gave approximately 300 observers a simple exhibition of weaving and bobbing, obviously bent on perfecting a plan that will enable him to get inside Conn's anticipated leads, and close enough to get over a sleep-producer. Baltimore

While Joe nor his trainer, Manny Seamon, would confirm this suspicion, neither appeared too concerned about the ribbing that came from several of the spectators. Maryland

Champ Kidded

Particularly during this session, the champion was made the target of the type of criticism he has never before heard in training camp. One wise-guy, for example, called out to George Fitch, after the latter had landed a hard left, "You'd better be careful there, you'll lose your job." There was general laughter, but Louis and Seamon seemed not the least perturbed.

Afterward, Harry Mendel, Mike Jacobs's drum-beater, assigned to the camp here, told the AFRO Joe was bothered by the slippery surface of the ring. The canvas, it was pointed out, had not been scraped and the top was therefore sleek.

It was also remembered that Joe had done no boxing since Monday, when he completed his indoor works to await completion of the outdoor ring. **The Bomber took a day off on Friday, spending the morning hours fishing after a short road jaunt. He had planned to attend the Jersey Joe Walcott-Lee Oma bout in New York Friday night, then changed his plans at the last minute and remained at camp.**

The Saturday drill was slightly different from that of Thursday

GREENWOOD LAKE, N.J. — With 166 rounds of boxing behind him since he began preliminary training Jan. 2, at Hot Springs, Ark., Billy Conn gives the appearance of a man who has reached his fighting peak far too soon for a bout set for June 19.

Billy Conn

No doubt the average reader will dismiss this observeratiion with a shrug of the shoulders, feeling, as is natural, that my report is based on so much wishful thinking.

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After spending the period with his first two mates moving inside of and around their leads, the Bomber mixed mildly with Bell and Fitch, particularly the latter, who is a roughy of the first water.

On Sunday, with 3,000 onlookers, the largest crowd to watch him work to date, Louis resumed his slam-bang tactics of the indoor days. Md.

Pay Dividends

The methodical work of Thursday and Saturday paid dividends as the champion boxed one round with each of his four sparring mates. After solving Hoosman's left leads, Joe shot over several rights of his own which had telling effect on the elongated ex-GI.

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It was the same story with Fitch and Daniels. Louis awaited their leads, tossed in a left hook or right cross as the occasion demanded, then sharpened up his punching **just prior to hopping the 17 miles over to Joe Louis's camp at Pompton Lakes, and he looked like the proverbial million dollars. I also saw him in eight rounds on Friday adding two heats with his brother, Jackie, to the program, and again he was lightning fact, shifty and punching in good time.**

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This, Ray denies. Asked about it, Johnny told the reporter: "He'll be all right. Billy has always done a lot of gym work in preparation for his fights and, besides, a fellow with a four-year vacation from the ring doesn't figure to tail off quickly." Maryland.

Billy, likewise, was thoroughly satisfied with his condition. "I'm not going to keep up this pace too long," he said, as if apologizing to the AFRO. "I simply plan to find my legs, develop my speed and sharpen my boxing. After that, I'll take enough layoffs to keep me on edge."

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"The last time Joe trained for me—that was for the fight that never came off—he was boxing only three or four rounds a day," said Billy. "Now it must be that Joe sees trouble ahead because I notice he is boxing six and eight rounds a day. But if Joe Louis hasn't learned the finer points of boxing up to now, he's not going to learn them in the gym between now and the fight. 6-1-46

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Barney Ross, former world lightweight and welterweight champion, told the AFRO Friday: "Billy is doing the right thing in concentrating on speed. I'm surprised to see him sa far along in his training at this stage. He looks as though he can step right into the ring with Louis. He seems to me to be just as fast as he ever was before he entered the Army."

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ALL IN THE GAME

JACK TROY

Constitution

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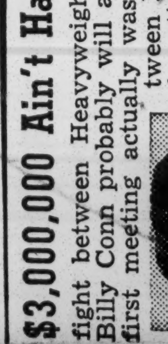

Conn Jnls. 6-18-46

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Louis Looks Good In Training Workout

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 6-15-46

By FAY YOUNG (Sports Editor)

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—Sweet as a breeze in June! That's the way Joe Louis looked to the crowd of 5,000 who watched him pump sharp rights and lefts in final preparation for his battle with Billy Conn, June 19, in defense of his title.

To the great pleasure of his audience the Brown Bomber really turned on the steam, cutting loose with an exhibition of hard punching during his eight round workout that had the crowd constantly on its feet.

Louis' workouts have been so good recently that the consensus now is that he will take Conn inside of five rounds.

Among the prominent folks at the ringside were Miss Marian

Joe Louis (Conn)

63c 1946

Louis Methodical, Conn Appears Overtrained During AFRO Visit to Camps of Two Rivals for June 19 Bout

By SAM LACY, AFRO Sports Editor

POMPTON LAKES, N.J. — A slow-moving, methodical Joe Louis, who took much from four sparring partners while dishing out comparatively little in return, was none too impressive in workouts for his June 19 championship bout with Billy Conn, last week.

The Bomber

But, while he showed nothing of the form he displayed on the last visit of the AFRO to his training camp here early this month, this reporter found no justification for the general alarm which spread over the spectators on Thursday afternoon when the Bomber moved outdoors for the first time, and on Saturday when he took part in another disappointing exhibition.

As a matter of fact, it was the impression in this corner that the champion was diligently studying, mapping plans for overcoming advantages enjoyed by a foeman with a good left hand. And, in doing so, Louis appeared to be content with occupying the receiver's role and not bothering too much about punishing his adversaries.

Good Left Hands

Three of Joe's four sparring partners are experts with their left hands. Al Hoosman, Jimmy Bell and Perk Daniels jab with the precision of artists, and the first two are adept at the business of jabbing and moving out, much after the fashion of Conn.

In the six-round stint on Thursday, the champion gave approximately 300 observers a simple exhibition of weaving and bobbing, obviously bent on perfecting a plan that will enable him to get inside Conn's anticipated leads, and close enough to get over a sleep-producer.

While Joe nor his trainer, Manny Seamon, would confirm this suspicion, neither appeared too concerned about the ribbing that came from several of the spectators.

Champ Kidded

Particularly during this session, the champion was made the target of the type of criticism he has never before heard in training camp. One wise-guy, for example, called out to George Fitch, after the latter had landed a hard left, "You'd better be careful there, you'll lose your job." There was general laughter, but Louis and Seamon seemed not the least perturbed.

Afterward, Harry Mendel, Mike Jacobs's drum-beater, assigned to the camp here, told the AFRO Joe was bothered by the slippery surface of the ring. The canvas, it was pointed out, had not been scraped and the top was therefore sleek.

It was also remembered that Joe had done no boxing since Monday, when he completed his indoor works to await completion of the outdoor ring. The Bomber took a day off on Friday, spending the morning hours fishing after a short road jaunt. He had planned to attend the Jersey Joe Walcott-Lee Oma bout in New York Friday night, then changed his plans at the last minute and remained at camp.

The Saturday drill was slightly different from that of Thursday

GREENWOOD LAKE, N.J. — With 166 rounds of boxing behind him since he began preliminary training Jan. 2, at Hot Springs, Ark., Billy Conn gives the appearance of a man who has reached his fighting peak far too soon for a bout set for June 19.

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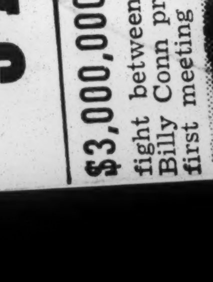

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Anderson, the world famous soprano, who said that she had never seen Louis fight. However, after viewing him in action today, she averred she would be there come the nineteenth.

At the ringside today too, were Sam Langford now blind, Barney Ross, former welterweight champion, and Charlie Glenn, owner of the Rhumboogie night club in Chicago. Along with him was Mrs. Glenn, of course, and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Williams and J. T. Harris.

Over at Greenwood Lake, N. J., Billy Conn of Pittsburgh also put on an exhibition of footwork and boxing, but minus any sign of hitting power. Perhaps he intends to borrow that old bicycle of Gene Tunney's and ride around the ring on the night of June 19.

An unfortunate incident occurred at one moment at the Louis camp when the temporary south bleachers collapsed. Two people were seriously injured and five others shaken up. The ardor of the crowd could not be dampened, however.

The Bomber worked two rounds each against Al Hoosman, of Los Angeles, Perk Daniels of Chicago, Jimmy Bell of Washington, and George Fitch of Newhaven, Conn. He turned on the steam impartially and at will.

Madison Square Garden officials on May 28 said Louis looked like the old "atom" slinger of old, and should have no trouble in disposing of Conn. Sat. 6-15-46

Conn Tells Strategy

The challenger worked out with Mickey McAvoy, Jimmy Smith, and Mike Belluscio, all of New York City. He made no bones about how he intends to fight Louis. The Definer

"I'm going in there," he said, "and wear Louis down. I'm going to jab and box him off his feet."

Conn figures that Louis will not be able to keep up the pace, and is depending on the champion's legs to give way. Chicago, Ill.

If Joe Earns a Million, He Will Still Be in the Red

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By PHINEAS SMITH

Sat. 6-22-46

Purely from a financial point of view, it would pay Joe Louis to lose his Wednesday night fight to Challenger Billy Conn.

It's just a simple case of mathematics.

Joe stands to collect as his share around a million smackers if the gate hits the 2½ million mark. He gets 40 per cent.

Taxes Over $800,000

BUT—Uncle Sam will probably take about $840,146.75 for income taxes, leaving Joe $159,853.25.

ALSO—Joe owes about $80,000 in back income taxes (he has paid off $37,000) and he is said to owe Uncle Mike Jacobs around $132,000. These two debts amount to $212,000, or $52,146.75 more than his purse after taxes.

AND—Joe's ex-wife, Mrs. Marva Louis Barrow, is also slated to get a cut of his purse. While some sources say that this amounts to 25 per cent, camp officials say that it is much lower. But even if she gets as much as 10 per cent, this makes about $16,000 more to be deducted.

Louis also pays $200 a month for their daughter Jacquelin.

In Red by $68,000

Win, lose or draw, then, Joe stands to be in the red by about $68,000, come next Thursday morning.

Reports that Louis also owed a considerable sum to Charlie Glenn, his former partner in Club Rhumboogie, a Chicago night spot, were vigorously denied. The partnership was dissolved, it was stated, and Joe's brother, Pat Brooks, now is Glenn's partner.

Camp officials further denied that Joe had any back golfing debts. In fact, all of the money that he owes, they said, is to Uncle Sam, Uncle Mike and to Marva. Sat. 6-22-46

Should Joe lose to Conn on Wednesday night, he is guaranteed a return bout, probably in September, and from such a bout could earn enough money to put himself in the black again.

A victory over Conn, however, will eliminate the most logical contender for the crown and although he might engage in some bouts with the second-raters who remain, the money thus earned would be but a drop in the bucket compared to what a return match with Conn would bring.

Afro Sees Champ Kayoing Challenger by 9th Round

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 6-22-46

Joe's 40 Per Cent Cut of Gate Will Net Him Over Million for Fistic Job

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

OTHER STORIES AND PHOTOS ON PAGES 8, 9, 15

NEW YORK—Joe Louis, who had his humble beginning in Alabama, and Billy Conn, whose boyhood was spent in the cobblestone district of Pittsburgh, were enjoying a final day of rest (Tuesday) before colliding Wednesday night in the Yankee Stadium ring in their second battle for the world's heavyweight boxing championship.

I am picking Louis to win by a knockout inside of nine rounds.

I am thoroughly confident that Joe will slow Billy up with a terrific body attack in the seventh or eighth, and will stop him cold after catching up to him the next time they're out of their corners.

Joe spent the day in peaceful relaxation at his Pompton Lakes, N.J., training camp while Conn passed the time in much the same way at Greenwood Lake, N.J., where he played cards with campmates and chatted freely with visitors.

There was little to indicate that these two ex-GI's, each of whom arrived at the top of his profession by way of the proverbial "bootstraps," were on the eve of a promotional extravaganza that bears promise to being the biggest event in the long and colorful history of pugilism.

Rivalled Only by Olympics

For universal interest and all-round national appeal, there is little question but that the Louis-Conn clash has had no rival with.

The ballyhoo stems from that exciting night five years ago today, June 18, 1941, when Louis, a tottering champion, shot over a right hand that crunched against the chin of his foeman and loosed a pandemonium that has reigned ever since. The Afro-American

Sports fans in every neck of the country have wondered what might have happened had not the Pittsburgh challenger made the one mistake of trying to slug with a man he had proved he could outbox. Baltimore, Md.

Capitalizing on "Natural"

From New York City to Little Creek, Colo., they have argued as to whether or not Billy Boy could thrash the champion if they should meet again; in Seattle, Wash., and in Leesburg, Fla., they have speculated on whether the Bomber, with his reputation for a better job on the man he meets a second time around, could catch and stop the cocky Irisher. Sat. 6-22-46

And so it has gone, fans everywhere eagerly awaiting this return go and sportswriters prognosticating and reviewing in the hope of striking on the eventual winner.

Promoter Mike Jacobs, capitalizing on this unmistakable "natural," has unblushingly upped the price of ringside seats to $100, and although there has been much criticism of his brashness, the tickets have found a ready and anxious market.

As a consequence, more than 15,000 seats will be occupied Wednesday night on Coogan's Bluff by folks who have shelled out 100 bucks for the pasteboards which entitle them to their pews. Hence the Louis-Conn tiff might well go down in the annals of sports as the "Battle of the Century—Notes."

May Surpass All Others

With announced ticket sales exceeding $2,000,000, the fight has already become the second highest gate in the annals of the sport. Indications are that it will even surpass the $2,658,660 that was drawn by Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney in their second clash at Soldier Field, Chicago, in 1927.

Whispered information is to the effect the gate has reached two-and-a-half-million dollars. If this is true, Louis, at 40%, has earned a million dollars even before he leaves the restful atmosphere of the New Jersey lake country.

Should the gate reach the $2,700,000 predicted by your correspondent, Joe's share will be approximately $1,080,000, minus taxes, and Conn's, of course, will be half that amount.

Jacobs has announced the seating plans of the fight in part. The $100 tickets will be for 15,000 seats which have been erected on an aluminum base on the field behind 15 rows that will make up the press section.

Seating Plans

This "field" section as it is called will raise to a height of 10 feet above the ground or 14 steps from the stadium floor. There will also be some $100 seats in the mezzanine boxes.

Boxes in the lower, mezzanine and upper stands are priced at $50, with the $30 seats situated in the section that normally is known as the grandstand at baseball games. The $20 ducat entitles holder to the removed portion of the upper stands and to the front section of the open stand. The rear portion of the open stand will be occupied by holders of $10 stubs.

Jacobs announced late Monday that a general admission ticket, priced at $6, will go on sale fight-day morning.

63c 1946

Joe Louis (Conn)

Louis Confident He Will Whip Conn The 'KO Way'

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 6-15-46

By FRANK A. YOUNG
(Sports Editor)

POMPTON LAKES — If anybody has any fears that Joe Louis, the world heavyweight champion won't be in shape to win over Billy Conn when he climbs through the ropes in Yankee stadium on Wednesday night, June 19, in New York City, they can dismiss that thought from their minds now and forever, according to Louis.

Joe says he is now measuring two inches more around the chest than in his first fight with Conn, and one inch more around the thigh. He also said that despite reports, his right hand is okay and in the best of fighting condition. Joe's weight of 210 for the Conn fight will be the heaviest at which he has ever entered the ring.

If Louis loses to Conn it will be the biggest upset in heavyweight history and Louis, his trainer Mannie Seamon and four sparring partners, as well as George Nicholson, assistant to Seamon do not intend for such a thing to happen.

In Talkative Mood

Following his road work early Thursday morning, June 6, Louis and his trainers took it easy until the 10 o'clock breakfast call from Bill Bottoms, Chicago restaurant owner, who is Louis' chef. A big breakfast of ham and eggs with all the trimmings left Louis in an excellent frame of mind and when pressed, in a talkative mood.

The "Brown Bomber" said he felt fine. He declared he knows no reason why such flowery stories were coming from the Billy Conn camp which is at Lakewood, situated eight miles from here.

"I'll be in shape the day of the fight, don't worry about that," Louis told the Chicago Defender's sports editor. "I'll reach the peak in training about two days prior to the bout," he added. But the champion saw no reason why even his closest friends should become excited with the scrap 13 days away.

"You wouldn't want me to go stale just to please those who don't know the boxing game, would you?" Joe asked.

Louis went six rounds Thursday afternoon against four of the toughest sparring partners any man would want to face. He started off the afternoon's program outlined by Mannie Seamon, with one round against Al Hoosman, Los Angeles heavyweight, who holds the championship of the South Pacific and Australia. Now this fellow Hoosman is some boxer. He served three years overseas with the 48th Quartermaster department.

Hoosman whipped Lee Savold two months ago. Right now he would, as could the other three sparring partners of the Brown Bomber, give Conn one whale of a fight, and perhaps win. Next, Louis went one fast round with Jimmy Bell, Washington, D. C. heavyweight, and another ex-service man. Bell recently defeated Joe Baksi.

George Fitch, New Haven, Conn., who was with the Special Services outfit for 30 months in the South Pacific, stepped into the squared area and went two torrid rounds with Louis. Fitch can do about everything. But it was Perk Daniels, Chicago, who made Louis wince when he let the champion have everything in the books and Daniels was plenty tough.

Rigid Schedule

George Nicholson, who has been Louis' number one sparring partner whispered that Seamon had given instructions to all four men to sail into Louis with all they had. Seamon wants them tough, Nicholson confided.

Prior to the ring work Louis shadow boxed five minutes following the sparring. The champion then punched the big dummy three minutes and took the same length of time skipping the rope. Nicholson used 10 minutes throwing the 10 pound medicine ball into the Brown Bomber's stomach to strengthen the muscles in the midsection. Setting-up exercises for 10 minutes ended the workout. Louis sweats out for 15 minutes. Boxers call it drying out. A shower and a rubdown follows.

Louis Looks Good

Louis looked about as well in the ring Thursday as he did two weeks prior to the fight with James J. Braddock when he won the world title in 1937. Fans remember him at Kenosha, Wis. There was some doubts then but the late Jack Blackburn who won't be with Louis in this fight, said he would be ready for Braddock. Blackburn is certainly missed both by Joe and by those who pay their one buck and 30 cents to see the champion work out each afternoon.

As for Seamon, he has been with Louis for 9 years. He served as assistant trainer to Jack Blackburn and when the latter was stricken, Seamon took over the training of Louis for his fight against Abe Simon in 1942. Seamon has trained Johnny Ertle, world bantamweight champion; Benny Leonard, world lightweight champion; Tod Morgan, world junior lightweight champion; Ted "Kid" Harris, world welterweight champion; Johnny Wilson before the latter was middleweight champion and Primo Carnera for the fight before the South American won the world heavyweight championship.

Now Seamon has the destinies of Joe Louis in his hands. He intends to have the "Brown Bomber" a winner over Conn and has no thought that the fight will go the limit. In other words, Seamon believes the champion will win by a knockout but will not at this time attempt to call the round.

The Sportview

By Chauncey Durden

Inflation's Already Here

Richmond Times-Dispatch

UNCLE MIKE JACOBS, who should know by now just how much tariff the cash customers can and will bear, is asking $100 for a ringside seat to the Joe Louis-Billy Conn heavyweight championship fight. And there are still some persons with the head-hiding proclivities of ostriches who are afraid of inflation.

Fri 4-5-46

As far as Uncle Mike and his minions, mouthpieces and ticket sellers are concerned, inflation is already here. And at $100 a throw, the greatest boxing promoter since Rickard should care. He figures to do better than $3,000,000 at the gate the night of June 19 when Brown Joe and Billy the Kid take up where they left off the night of June 18, 1941. With the promoter's cut out of that three million, plus

Joe Louis

Billy Conn

a nice piece of money to be made from Jacobs' ticket agency, Uncle Mike shouldn't have to worry about the high cost of living, regardless of how inflated prices may become.

But, while Jacobs is licking his chops and wetting his fingers the better to count those stacks of green bills, some other fellows aren't exactly clapping their hands and shouting with glee at the price tag the promoter has hung on the ringside seats to the championship fight.

Fri. 4-5-46

One of those viewers-with-alarm is Representative Spence, a Democrat in good standing with his Kentucky constituents. Representative Spence is chairman of the House Banking Committee which is studying continuance of the price control act. The Congressman sees in Jacobs' ringside price stark inflation. As he puts it, "It is extremely inflationary when a man will pay $100 just to see a prize fight . . . It (the willingness to pay $100 for a ringside seat) shows the danger of taking off price controls—and how high a man would bid for the necessities of life, say a pair of shoes, if controls weren't in effect."

It seems to us that Representative Spence has something there. And it furthermore strikes us that Jacobs has given the advocates of continued price control several rounds of ammunition with which to back their stand. Which fact, we are sure, was not considered by Jacobs when he scaled the Louis-Conn scrap at $100 per ringside seat. Uncle Mike isn't the one to take sides with anyone except Uncle Mike.

* * * * *

Suckers Increase in Size

THE SUCKERS have grown considerably in size since the days when P. T. Barnum was angling for the little ones which were born every minute. The present ones are big, full-grown fish which fight each other to hit the baited hook. Nor does the bait have to be too enticing. Uncle Mike found that out when he was selling out Madison Square Garden all during the war with second rate fighters.

With the return Louis-Conn bout as bait, Fisherman Jacobs upped his ringside ante from the $25 price he charged five years ago to one hundred bucks. There's a 300 per cent rise in price. And there's no guarantee that the return fight will approach the first one in quality.

Jacobs, you'll remember, took no chances on either Louis or Conn hurting the big gate by looking bad in warm-up bouts. Neither was permitted, Jacobs being the uncrowned czar of boxing no matter what the National Boxing Commission officials or Eddie Eagan, chairman of the N. Y. Commission, may say to the contrary, to expose any loss of ring savvy or ability either has suffered during five noncompetitive years. That both Louis and Conn have gone back is inevitable. A fighter, no matter how much sparring he may do for the entertainment of servicemen, could not but lose something of his ring equipment during that long period of time. No matter what a man's trade may be, he must work at it to retain his sharpness.

Fri 4-5-46

And even if Conn and Louis could turn back the clock five years, it wouldn't be worth $100 to see them fight it out for the world's championship. There never was and never will be a prize fight worth that kind of folding money. Jacobs would be the first to admit that—in a small room from which none of the listeners would emerge—but before June 19 many thousands will be convinced that they will get a full return on their invested $100. And no one can convince them otherwise, so why should we try? Us, we'll be there on a working press ticket.

Fearful of a Chilling by Joe, Conn Wants to Enter Ring Hot

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 16 — (UP) — To assure that Billy Conn comes into the ring "hot" against Joe Louis Wednesday night, his manager, Johnny Ray, will ask permission of the boxing commission to delay his entrance into the ring until after most of the announcements have been made.

Ray will make this unusual request of Commission Chairman Eddie Eagan at Wednesday's weigh-in, it was revealed.

Despite Conn's speed, he is a "slow starter," who requires three or four rounds to get warmed up and it is during those early rounds that Champion Joe will be most daugerous.

Accordingly, Pittsburgh Billy will shadow-box four or five rounds in the dressing-room, before starting for the ring, to prevent his being "caught cold" by the hard-punching Louis.

He will enter the ring swathed in bath robes and towel to prevent cooling off before the action begins. If he were forced to wait in his corner during the 15 or 20 minutes of ceremonials, announcements and introductions of notables, Ray fears that Conn would cool out despite the robes and towels.

Conn's performance today against partners ranged from excellent to poor. Although Conn took more pains with his defense than in previous weeks, Frank Poreda rocked him with a straight smash to the chin that made the crowd groan. More than 800 spectators sat in the outdoor stands.

However, Billy was impressive in his one-round session with Jimmy Smith. He staggered Smith three times with left hooks to the chin and had him in such trouble that Manager Ray chopped a few seconds off the round by calling "time." One of the left hooks gashed the bridge of Smith's nose.

The challenger scaled 181 pounds after the workout that brought 180. He will box tomorrow, but not on Tuesday. He may break camp tomorrow night or Tuesday forenoon, and take light limbering exercises Tuesday afternoon in a New York gym.

Heavy Drills Over; Louis Appears Ready

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 16—(UP)—Acting as care-free as a grade school boy with a popsicle in either hand, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis went through his last strenuous workout today for his title defense against Billy Conn at Yankee Stadium Wednesday night.

As if he hadn't a care in the world Louis went seven fast rounds against five sparring partners and at times showed flashes of the form which won him ranking as one of the greatest heavyweights of all time before he discarded his civilian clothes for those of a GI.

He may not have been as fast as he was in the days before the war but he showed emphatically that his punches haven't lost any of their old time zing and at the end of the workout he appeared fresh for a fighter of his age—32.

And Louis let it be known that he hoped he would not have to go 15 rounds against the Pittsburgh challenger Wednesday night.

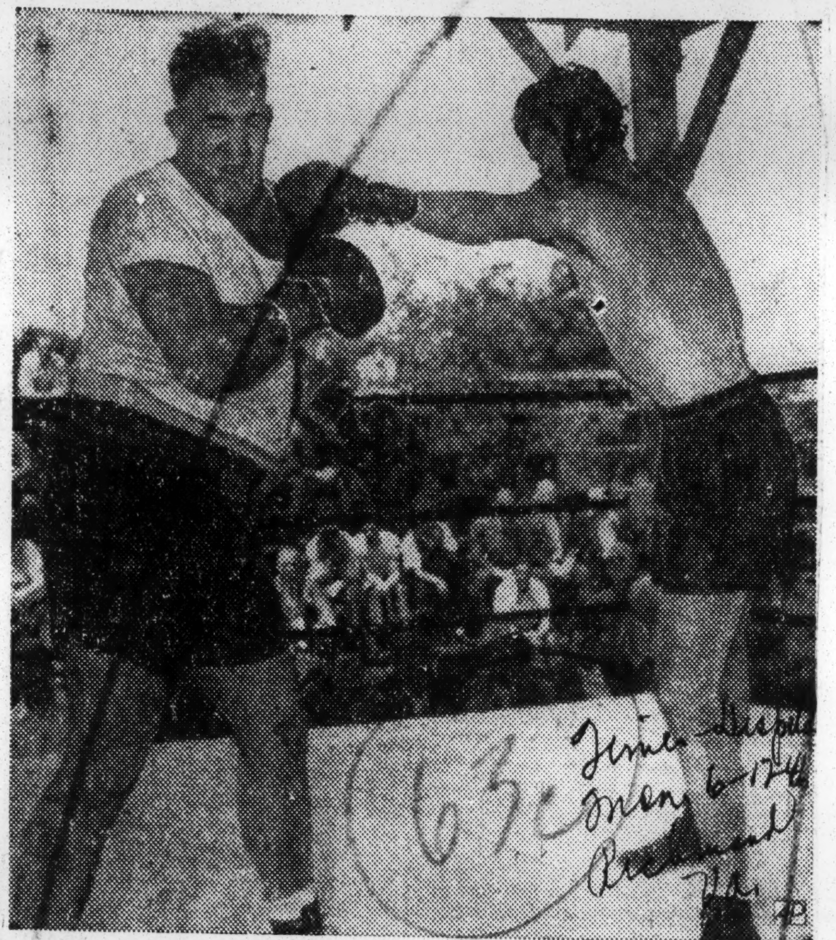
He told Comedian Gracie Allen, who was one of the 5,200 persons who jammed his training camp today, the largest crowd ever to see a boxer prepare for a bout, that he was counting on "finishing it fast" and when asked whether those who shell out $100 for ringside seats were going to sit down long enough to get their money's worth, he replied:

"A 10-second count is what I hope they see for their $100."

The way he said it left little doubt but that he expected to put over the punch that would count —with Pittsburgh Bill on the receiving end.

Louis predicted he may go into the ring weighing only 208 pounds rather than the 210 that had been expected. He plans to box four rounds tomorrow then go through a light drill Tuesday as final tapering off exercises.

From the Fight Camps



BILLY CONN—Stings Spar Mate Mickey McAvoy with a hard left in a recent warm-up session for the fight Wednesday night at Yankee Stadium in New York. That left is one of Conn's best weapons.

Louis Shows Killer Form In Windup

Pompton Lake, N. J., June 17 (INS).—The rival warriors wound up their preliminary sparring today, Joe Louis at this Pompton Lakes retreat, and Billy Conn, challenger for Joe's heavyweight crown, down the road a piece at Greenwood Lake.

Conn was fast, but Louis was unadulterated murder in their respective final workouts.

Immediately after his workout, Conn packed his gear and set off for the more familiar cement strands of New York City, where, in Yankee Stadium two nights hence, he makes his second try for the Bomber's championship. Billy feels much more at home on city streets than in bucolic surroundings.

He will trot around the Central Park reservoir tomorrow morning and in the afternoon work in a private gymnasium.

Stays in Camp

Louis will stay in camp until 11 o'clock Wednesday morning when he will be delicately piloted to Madison Square Garden in time for the historic weighing-in ceremonies at 12:30 p. m., EDT. He plans 10 minutes of rope skipping and ten more minutes of calisthenics and a short automobile ride in his sleek new car tomorrow.

Louis was particularly sharp in his punching today, mayhap the result of paring his weight exceedingly the last few days. He said he will weigh between 210 and "nearer 208" for the fight. Mannie Seamon, his trainer, cut in to say that he thought the boss-man would scale nearer 206.

At any rate, Louis was keen today against his two fleet sparring partners, George Haywood and Jimmy Bell, for four rounds. His left jab was hard and shotting fast. One such sent Haywood, 177 pounds, reeling half-way across the ring with a bloody nose. Others rocked Bell and one short 5-inch ringht-hand knocked Haywood's mouthpiece out of his mouth.

Tests His Speed

Conn worked two fast rounds with Sammy Schipane, a 137-pound lightweight, and tested his speed against the little fellow. Everyone in his camp was satisfied with his work and condition.

Billy chuckled as he sat in his dressing room and then was weighed in at 184, 3 more than expected.

"Look here," he said, "I fought seven former world's middleweight champions. This guy Louis is just another champion to me. But he's the only one that's gonna count . . . and no matter when this fight finishes, I figure to be the winner."

Louis was equally confident in his prefight press conference. To wit: "I haven't got a first round knockout in mind. But there's one thing—Conn has been training for the newspapermen. I've been training for a knockout.

"After this fight I aim to take two months doing nothing but playing and watching golf. I'll start in Cleveland, July 4, 5 and 6, and play in Detroit July 15, and in the Tam O'Shanter in Chicago July 24. Maybe I'll go to Edmonton for the Canadian Open, July 29.

"My new restaurant in New York will open sometime around July 8, and I'll come in for the opening. At the end of the summer I aim to spend a lot of time in the restaurant. It cost $300,000."

Joe's Camp Is Minus Old Pals

By WENDELL SMITH (Sports Editor)

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—The sharp winds of Time have swept away with a startling thoroughness all but three of the exciting and famous personalities who were identified with Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis and his rustic training camp retreats of just a few years ago.

Other than the Champion himself, Bill Bottoms, the famous chef and George Nicholson, the ever-ready sparring partner, Louis' intimate official entourage is composed of new faces. This new aggregation of personalities is just as concerned about the fortunes of the King of Fistiana as the old, but despite its paternal attitude these recent "immigrants" seem to lack the color, glamour and officious assurance of those who used to direct the destinies of the Champion.

Gone is suave, blase John Roxborough, who managed the young "Dark Destroyer" from Detroit with an authority that has never been equaled in boxing history. Refined and cultured, Roxborough faced the intricate problems tossed into his lap as coolly as Louis faced his opponents in the ring.

Working with Roxborough was slick-haired, rough and ready Julian Black. A resident of Chicago and wise in the ways of the ruthless buccaneers who roamed the turbulent seas of the fight world, he formed a perfect partnership with Roxborough and together they chalked the path that Louis was to follow. That path eventually led him to the heavyweight championship of the world.

Probably the wisest selection that Roxborough and Black ever made was the day they called in the wise and capable Jack Blackburn as Joe's trainer. Once a great fighter himself, Blackburn took young Joe to school, showed him the ways and the pitfalls of the fight game. He tutored, coached and instructed the hard-hitting youth from Detroit with a methodical thoroughness that brought results far beyond the expectations of the two managers.

The lesser light of this famous combination was personable Freddie Guinyard of Detroit, a rollicking, pleasure-loving guy who acted as Joe's personal secretary and bosom buddy.

This conglomeration of personalities made the Joe Louis camp the most colorful and interesting of them all. The might of Louis' fists made him the most glamorous athlete in the nation and he was surrounded by men who added even more lustre to the fascinating picture. Whenever Joe pitched his camp it was a signal for newspapermen to come running. No other camp attracted so many outstanding writers and no other fighter enjoyed such a great press. People came from far and near to get a taste of the exciting atmosphere and rub elbows with famous writers, Broadway stars, the wealthy and the members of the fight mob. There were Grantland Rice, Damon Runyon, Paul Gallico, Ches Washington, Burris Jenkins, George Raft, Harry Wills, Rooster Hammond, Teddy Horne, Woogie Harris, Mushky Jackson, Jimmy Walker, Bill Robinson and a host of others who had fame, if nothing else.

There is a sharp contrast today, however. The man Joe always called "Mister Roxborough" is not here, nor is Julian Black. Jack Blackburn is dead. Freddie Guinyard has also bowed out of the picture. Only Bill Bottoms, George Nicholson and the champ himself are left of that original combination. And most of the people who used to make a Joe Louis camp big news are missing.

Conn Confident, Louis Strong 9 Days Before Title Fight

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 10.—(INS): The inevitable swing-back of sentiment—away from a semi-old champion toward a semi-young challenger—was reflected in one respect today when two carloads of journalists rode 50 miles into the Jersey hinterland just to sit around and gas with Billy Conn.

One item of discussion was the fact that ex-Welterweight Champion Barney Ross added his voice to the views of Ex-Heavyweight Champion James J. Braddock over the week-end in speaking dubiously of Joe Louis' age.

The journalists, however, were preoccupied with Conn himself as they sat in the bleachers overlooking his outdoor ring and listened to him beat Louis—with rhetoric.

He perhaps said very little that was new, but in repetition there came added belief in this man who so clearly believes in himself. So great, in fact, is the faith Conn reposes in his destiny, he even discussed with becoming gravity his plans for defending a title he feels so certain is soon to be his.

The visiting intelligentsia, assembled from as far to the north as Boston and as far West as Des Moines, nodded soberly as these tidings were conveyed, seeming to find nothing amiss in Conn's assumption that Louis' plus-32 years would bear more heavily upon him than would Conn's minus-29. Said Conn, brightly and with complete assurance:

"They (the years) will start dragging him down by the belt-line along about the 10th round."

Quickly, in answer to a question, he said, no, he wasn't going to try for a knockout. Unsmilingly he added that he "made that mistake the last time". Then, as though reconsidering, the challenger went on to say he'd have to see Louis on the floor-boards first before concluding he'd hurt the guy.

But, no matter what he says in public, people who know Conn very well also know that what he'd really like to do, more than anything in life, is stretch Louis like a prayer rug.

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 10.—(INS): Joe Louis, the Brown Bomber, tomorrow will start his final week of training for the defense of his heavyweight crown at Yankee stadium June 19.

He has boxed 21 days and will for five more, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Louis has boxed 113 rounds. He plans to box at least six rounds on each of the five days left to train, but may extend the workout if he feels the urge. When he has completed his training he will have boxed about 143 rounds. When he started his campaign for the defense of his title, Joe planned to box 125 pounds.

Louis has covered 426 miles on the roads. He has run the greater part of it, but during the past week he has alternated between running and walking. Joe plans on covering 42 miles more on the roads.

Louis said today he is well satisfied with his condition. He said: "I am not in the peak or on edge right now, but will be by the time I enter the ring."

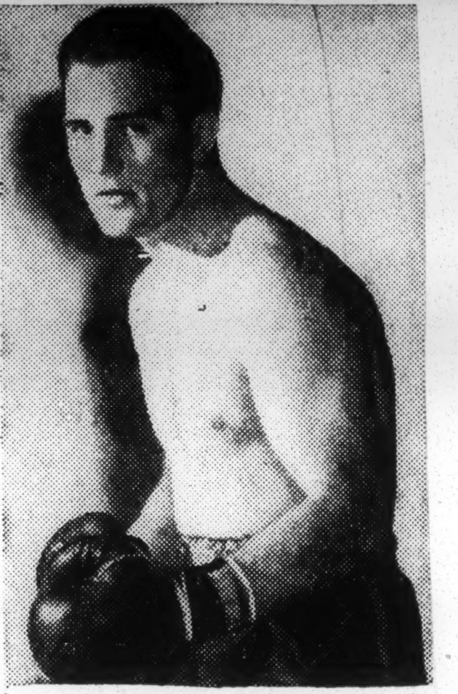
Louis weighs 214 and says he will be down to 210 for the fight, which will leave him strong as a bull. He weighed 199 3-4 for the last fight, which he considered too light.

Joe said that Al Hoosman, George Fitch and Jimmy Bell are the best sparring partners he has ever had. Bell is the most like Conn, throwing an excellent left hook, while Hoosman with his long legs, his left jab and his ability to run is the hardest opponent to hit.

Joe's legs are strong as they ever were, as a result of all the road work he has done. He is ready for a long fight, but says if the opening presents itself, he will be ready with his knockout punch.

Louis is in great spirits. He kidded around with his sparring partners over the week-end, something he has never done before. He likes to sit around and talk baseball and golf. He rested today.

LOUIS		CONN
32	AGE	28
210 LBS.	WEIGHT	180 LBS.
6 FT. 2	HEIGHT	6 FT. 1
76 IN.	REACH	73½ IN.
42 IN.	CHEST (Normal)	41 IN.
45 IN.	CHEST (Expanded)	43¾ IN.
17 IN.	NECK	17½ IN.
15 IN.	BICEPS	15¼ IN.
12 IN.	FOREARM	12 IN.
8 IN.	WRIST	7½ IN.
11¼ IN.	FIST	11½ IN.
36 IN.	WAIST	33½ IN.
22 IN.	THIGH	22 IN.
15 IN.	CALF	14¾ IN.
10 IN.	ANKLE	9¼ IN.



BILLY CONN

TAPE SHOWS CONN GROWS—

Those who would like to see Billy Conn as the new world's heavyweight champion might get their wish when he makes a second attempt to dethrone Joe Louis in Yankee stadium Wednesday, June 19. For measurements show that the Pittsburgh kid has grown up. He's a man now! Five years ago, almost to the day, Conn was a mere light-heavyweight when he fought Louis, one of the greatest hitters in fistiana. (AP Newsfeatures.)

Mr. Conn Poses Delicate Query For Uncle Mike

William David Conn, who is not averse to shooting his mouth off on fistic matters of any kind, announced to a palpitating world of sports writers, gin rummy experts, and sparring partners at Greenwood Lake the other afternoon that, should he win the heavyweight title from Joe Louis, he had no intention of defending it again this year.

Uncle Michael Strauss Jacobs, the genial gentleman who is promoting the big fight next week, took time out from counting $100 bills at his office to set the record straight:

Said Mike: "Billy Conn signed a contract with me guaranteeing Louis a return fight for the title within 90 days. That's the only way he got this match."

What would happen if Conn decided to violate the contract, in the event he wins the title? Would Mike sue? Could the Boxing Commission vacate Billy's new crown because of breach of contract?

Mike answered the second question first. "What's the Boxing Commission got to do with this? He ain't got no contract with them. He's got a contract with me. I don't have to put the return match in New York. I can put it any place I chose."

Having gotten that much off his mind, Uncle Mike continued: "Would I sue Conn? Who wants to sue anybody?"

Mike started back for his cash, suddenly turned and, as an "afterthought," undoubtedly, added: "Maybe I wouldn't want to put on another fight this year anyway Understand?"

Yes, Uncle.

Conn Says Take 3-to-1

You have to give 14 to get 5 if you think Willie Pep will beat Sal Bartolo for the featherweight title in the Garden tonight.... Billy Conn is telling all his friends to take that 3-for-1 money supposed to be around on Louis. Me?

I learned long ago nothing on earth is worth 3 to 1. You can look it up.

Conn's been carrying his left hand low in training sessions and the experts figure he'd better raise it if he doesn't want to get clipped the first punch.... Now it looks like he'll be less than 180 a week from Wednesday.

For his last fight with Joe, the stories said he tipped 174. Actually, he weighed 169, according to Johnny Ray, his mgr. And he had a swarm of domestic trouble swirling around his ears, too. After the last fight, Louis nixed a return match in September with Billy—not because he was afraid, but he thought it wouldn't draw!

There are still seats to be had for the fight in every classification, and in case you've forgotten the scale: $100, $50, $30, $20 and $10 is it. Mike Jacobs expects between 75,000 and 80,000 on hand, with 15,000 of 'em in the new raised ringside seats, the structure of which is made of aluminum.

Body Attack Is Stressed in Conn Workout

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 12 (AP).—If the six rounds he boxed today may be accepted as a tip-off, what Billy Conn has in mind to do a week from tonight is try to bring Joe Louis down with a steady barrage to the big man's middle.

Under directions from his manager, Johnny Ray, the challenger concentrated on boring his way in and slamming his sparring mates in the pantry until they grunted and hung on. Billy's straight, stabbing left, ordinarily his best weapon, was only rarely in evidence.

After two days of rest, during which his weight ballooned up to 188 pounds, Billy looked strong as he mauled heavyweights Mickey McAvory, Frank Poreda and Mickey Bellucio for the benefit of a small crowd.

Ray says he has decided not to try to bring Conn into the ring at any certain weight. A few days ago both he and Billy were mentioning 180 as the goal toward which they were working for the big test, but Ray says now that Conn might come in as high as 184.

Condition Main Item

"We'll just go along working and taking it easy, and whatever Billy weighs next Wednesday will be all right," Johnny said. "The important thing is that he's in condition. Did you notice that none of those guys could hit him today?"

Among those who watched the Pittsburgh fighter dance about tirelessly between assaults on his partners' middles were Barney Ross, the former lightweight and welterweight champion, and Harry Wills, the former heavy contender. Both leande toward Conn.

"If Louis doesn't knock Billy but within three rounds, Billy's a cinch to win on points," Ross predicted.

"Con will do all right if he doesn't forget to duck," Was Wills' contribution to the wealth of experting that has done lately.

Kearns Likes Conn

Jack Kearns, former manager of such greats as Jack Dempsey and Mickey Walker, came out flat-footed for Conn after giving him the eye today. "He oukht to win all by himself," he sail. "I mean he ought to be away out in front all the way."

Freddie Mills, the British light heavyweight champion, also had a few nice things to say about Conn. He appeared amazed at the difference between the challenger now and when he saw him box several exhibitions in England during the war. Billy was ever 200 pounds at that time.

Louis Takes a Rest, Says He's Ready Now

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 12 (U.P.).—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis took today off from his training and mapped out his exact schedule for the remaining six days before his June 19 title defense against Billy Conn.

He said he would box six rounds tomorow, rest again on Friday, then box six rounds Saturday, eight on Sunday and four on Monday. On Tuesday he will devote five minutes each to shadow-boxing, rope-skipping and calisthenics. He will drive into New York for the weigh-in just after Wednesday noon, and may come back to camp for the afternoon.

Louis was in good humor as he sat around and talked with sports writers, and said he wasn't worried over Dr. Vincent Nardiello's finding that his blood pressure goes up abonormally when he boxes.

"I feel great, and Dr. Nardiello also said I was ready right now to fight," the champion said. "Dr. William Walker has examined me for all my fights and he said I was fit—and I guess he should know my condition."

Two Ex-GI's to Attract Largest Gate in History In Wednesday's Return

Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky

By Sid Feder
Associated Press Sports Writer

NEW YORK, June 15—Carried along on the greatest gold rush in sports history, a couple of ex-GI's will keep a date Wednesday night that they made five years ago to fight it out for the heavyweight championship of the world.

Jun 6-16-46

At 9 P. M. (EST), in a ring set just over second base in the spacious reaches of Yankee Stadium, ex-Sergeant Joseph Louis Barrow, of Detroit—Joe Louis of the ear-scrambling set—collides with ex-Corporal William David Conn—Billy the Pittsburgh Kid—over the customary "15 rounds or less" derby route, as sports' postwar champagne and caviar era reaches its crest.

It is just one day more than five years since they tangled the first time, in the Polo Grounds, just across the Harlem River from the stadium. Realizing he needed a knockout to keep his championship that night, Joe put the lights out for Billy in the thirteenth round, after Sweet William had piled up a commanding lead on his boxing skill and speed and supreme confidence that he can whip any man in the world using fists alone.

The return match was a "natural" then. It's even more of a "seven-and-eleven" now, what with money as free as a night shirt flapping in the breeze on a clothes line, Louis apparently feeling his 32 years and Conn—developing late, like most Irish athletes— seemingly hitting his peak at 28.

Jun 6-16-46

Jacobs Getting His

They have waited five years for this shot at the biggest bundle of cash ever. Promoter Mike Jacobs, who is practically irresistible at wheedling a buck from a fight fan's bankroll, has waited with them.

With Gus Fan and his missus virtually beating the doors down to buy seats, Mike set the ringside charge at an all-time high for a fight—$100 per copy. Yet nearly a million dollars worth of tickets were on order before they'd even been printed or the admission price announced.

The scale slides from $100 down to $10 for the outer rim of the park, yet the customers have responded as if Mike were giving free dishes with each pasteboard. As a result, Jacobs predicted today that a crowd of 75,000 would bulge the big Bronx ball yard at the seams by the time the preliminaries start at 7:30 P. M. (EST) Wednesday, and that the gate stands a very good chance of hitting the $3,000,000 mark.

If it does, Louis would get close to $1,000,000 as his slice of the net proceeds, plus a cut of the radio and motion picture take. Conn's end would be about $500,000, since they receive 40 per cent and 20 per cent shares of the net, respectively.

Twenty-second Defense

This will be the twenty-second time Joe has put the beak-busting industry's richest bauble on the line since he hammered Cinderella Man Jim Braddock into unconsciousness nine years ago next Saturday to start the longest reign of any champion from the point of view of title defenses.

He has been among the fight game's all-time top champions, took on all comers, met sluggers and boxers and "clowns" with peculiar styles and fought twice for charity for Army and Navy relief.

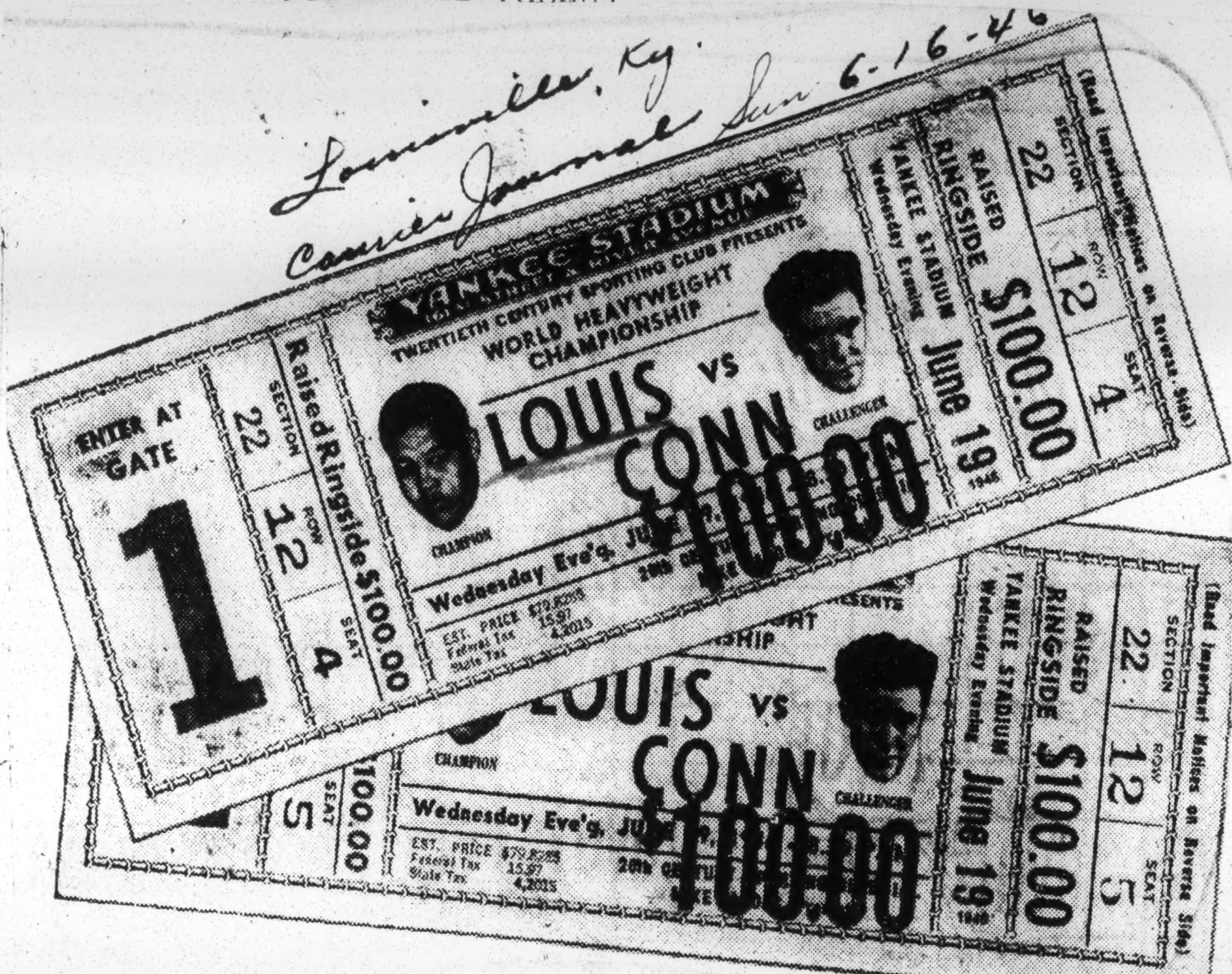
Only two of his 21 challengers went the full 15 rounds with him —Tommy Farr and Arturo Godoy —and he put the Chilean away in eight rounds in a return scramble. He flattened four of them in less than a round—including Max Schmeling, to avenge the only defeat in his entire career. Altogether, he made the birdies sing for 13 of them in six rounds or less.

Yet old Pop Time and a four-year layoff since he put his gloves in mothballs and went on Uncle Sam's payroll have left their mark on him. He misses his friend and trainer, the late Jack Blackburn. He still packs the punch of a blockbuster, but in his training he has been a slow-moving target, thumped surprisingly freely—and often—by his sparmates, and still unable to "set" to punch when an opponent confuses him by sudden moves.

Conn, on the other hand, appears even faster than he was five years ago. He has sparred 260 training rounds, compared to oJe's 140. He's what Louis, himself, calls a "full-grown" heavyweight now, at over 180 pounds, compared to the 174 he carried the last time. This added avoirdupois, most of it in his shoulders and neck, makes him a better puncher, although he has no intentions of trying for a knockout over Louis.

Joe will weigh a solid 210.

As a result of the training developments, the betting odds against Billy have dropped steadily in the past two weeks and now have hit a low of 11 to 5, compared to the 3 to 1 in bargain rates at which they opened.



Louisville, Ky. Courier Journal Jun 6-16-46

FLAWS IN DEFENSE OF CONN OBSERVED

New York Times N.Y.

Challenger Dissatisfied With Drill After Lay-Off, Though He Impresses Critics

Thurs 6-13-46

By JAMES P. DAWSON
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 12—A week away from the fight of his life, the struggle next Wednesday night at the Yankee Stadium in which he will attempt to lift the world heavyweight title from Joe Louis, Billy Conn didn't look too good in training today. The Pittsburgh challenger, following six rounds of sparring, frankly admitted he didn't feel any better than he suspected he had looked boxing against gargantuan Mickey McAvoy, Frankie Poreda and Mike Bellusceo.

Two days of idleness between workouts explained a demonstration which left something to be desired. There is, too, the pressure of the approaching battle date, bringing with it a keen desire to "get it over"

The combination accounted for six rounds of sparring which were just so much work f or Conn. The challenger showed best as an in-fighter, a style which not even his closest friend expects Conn to introduce against Louis, particularly in view of the obvious plan of Louis to press the challenger from the first bell.

Louis' Plan of Battle Clear

This plan on the part of the titleholder has been manifest in all of his workouts since he entered the serious part of his training. It is as if Louis realizes his big chance rests in a knockout.

Fear of going stale altered Conn's training plans. Originally scheduled to spar eight rounds against four mates, the Pittsburgher cut the drill to six sessions against three.

Manager Johnny Ray canceled a session against Jimmy Smith, ordering the latter out of the ring and dictating the substitution of Bellesceo after Conn had sparred two rounds with McAvoy and as many with Poreda. This led to a hiatus which possibly cooled off Conn, since time had to be taken to adjust the big 16-ounce "pillows" on the hands of the unprepared Bellesceo.

Notwithstanding the favorable reaction of critics, analysis of the drill revealed a couple of weaknesses in the challenger's style which could damage his chances. He is susceptible to a right-hand assault over a left lead. He is a wide-open mark for short lefts or rights to the jaw emerging from clinches.

He pulls his left back too far, too conspicuously, when he launches a hook for the body or the head. He even stumbled back-pedaling at one stage of the proceedings with Bellesceo, a fact which seemed to indicate his legs were not no so springy as of yore.

McAvoy Reaches Target

A 230-pound edition of Two-Ton Tony Galento in appearance, McAvoy had no difficulty at all reaching over Conn's left with lumbering rights to the head and grazing the jaw. Nor did McAvoy find it hard to reach Conn with a left hook to the jaw, while the challenger confined his efforts principally to whaling away industriously at McAvoy's aldermanic paunch.

Thurs 6-13-46

Poreda outspeared Conn with left jabs, titled the challenger's head back repeatedly, and brought into bold relief the susceptibility of Conn to short-arm drives leaving close quarters. Bellesceo's sparring emphasized how easy it was to hit Conn with short rights to the head and face.

A puffing, tired, disappointed Conn disappeared into a dressing room after the sparring and the light bag, pulleys and floor calisthenics which followed. He had worked the equivalent of twelve rounds spread over close to an hour because of the sparring partner switch, and he was breathing heavily, perspiration pouring from his face and body.

However, critics in the crowd were not disappointed. Mickey Walker, former world welterweight and middleweight champion, revising his opinion of Tuesday at Louis' camp, unhesitatingly forecast a Conn victory on speed. Similar forecast was made by Jack Kearns, who piloted Walker into the middleweight crown after he had landed Jack Dempsey on top of the heavyweight heap. Walker and Kearns had been outspoken in predicting victory for Louis, the puncher, the day before.

Ross Finds Conn Impressive

Barney Ross characterized Conn's showing as impressive, saying the challenger had danced like a flyweight and punched like a heavyweight. He added Louis would have to score an early knockout or lose the title.

More restrained was the summation of giant Harry Wills, Brown Panther of another era in boxing. Duly impressed with Conn's potential speed, Wills expressed the belief Conn might "do all right if he can hold that speed; but he carries his left too low." Freddie Mills, British Empire light-heavyweight champion, and his manager, Ted Broadribb, were favorably impressed.

Thurs 6-13-46

Louis spent the day quietly at his camp in Pompton Lakes, N. J. Undismayed by reports of Tuesday's medical examination revealing an abnormal blood pressure condition, Louis quietly mapped out the program for four working days remaining before he enters the ring to defend his crown.

He plans to work six rounds tomorrow, six rounds Saturday, eight rounds Sunday and four rounds Monday. He intends Tuesday only to loosen up with light exercise. Friday will be a day f rest for the champion. He plans, as usual, to remain at Pompton Lakes until summoned to the weighing Wednesday at noon, driving to New York.

HOW THEY PICK THE LOUIS-CONN CLASH

With the Big Fight only eight days away, the usual crop of predictions are cropping up from the former greats, near-greats and otherwise of the fight world.

Opinion seems to be evenly divided about the outcome of the Louis-Conn classic Wednesday night at Yankee Stadium—but for what it's worth, here's the way the early guesses shape up: 6-11-46

LOUGHRAN

Tommy Loughran, former light-heavy champ and one of the cleverest men to ever don the gloves believes the title will change hands on June 19th. Loughran basis his favoring of Conn on the belief that Louis' reflexes aren't what they used to be.

After watching Joe work out Saturday at Pompton Lakes, Loughran opined: "Louis is slow, he wants to do things and starts to do them, but his execution is bad. It is something time takes care of and there is nothing you can do about it. I know because I've been through it. He reminds me of Jack Dempsey in Atlantic City, when that great champion was training for Gene Tunney." Daily Worker

And Jimmy Braddock, the former Cinderella Man who lost his title to Louis via an eight-round knockout in 1937, is of much the same opinion as Loughran. Says Braddock: "Louis is slow, he is easy to hit and can be feinted into an opening."

On the other side of the fence is Ray Arcel, the famous fight trainer who has dragged more Louis kayo victims back to their corner than any other handler. Arcel watched Louis go through an impressive eight-round stint Sunday, and here's what he said: New York, N.Y.

"Joe is in surprisingly good shape, considering his long layoff from the ring. This is the second time I have watched him box. He has improved remarkably since I saw him two weeks ago. Yes, I've watched Conn, too. Billy is in fine shape. But Louis will knock him out within ten rounds. His punching power will decide the fight—particularly his punches to the body. He is sharpening a left hook to the liver and a straight right to the heart." 6-11-46

Another Louis supporter is Arturo Goudy, the Chilean heavyweight who was twice defeated by the champion. "I've just come from Conn's camp and after seeing them both box, I'm convinced Louis will win," said Goudy.

Jimmy Braddock thinks Conn will win, but here's the former Cinderella Man wishing champ Joe Louis lots of luck in his title defense next Wednesday night at Yankee Stadium.

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Tuesday 6-11-46

Joe, Billy Top Bill Tonight In Yank's Stadium

BY GRANTLAND RICE

Birmingham News

NEW YORK, June 19—(NANA)—Five years ago, Joe Louis and Billy Conn gave the crowd a 13-round thriller that ended suddenly with Conn on the canvas. Tonight, they meet again at Yankee Stadium here in the critical presence of some 75,000 spectators, who have wisely or unwisely invested around $2,500,000 in the dream—or hope—of seeing another thriller.

This time, however, the fight crowd will be looking at two men who are five years older than they were in the Summer of 1941. They will be looking at two fighters who haven't been in competition for more than four years; two men who are certainly healthy; two men who outwardly seem to be in good physical shape. But who can say what deterioration has taken place in the long, rusting march of four fightless years? What deterioration has occurred in timing, reflexes, speed, leg stamina and ability to take it.

There are many things within the human system that no eye can see. This also goes for the thoroughbred that one backs at even money, only to see him finish fifth. There is no substitute in sport for actual competition, especially after the years have started slipping by. It is quite possible that both has slipped about the same. If this has happened, the contest still can be a thriller, and the dip into partial mediocrity overlooked. Bel. 6-19-46

The tremendous ballyhoo, largely caused by their first meeting, has given this championship bout an added interest not justified by the 1946 form and ability of each man. Ballplayers and golfers have returned from war service to top form, but don't forget that they have had the benefit of many games and matches in championship or big-money competition, something neither Louis nor Conn has faced in more than four years.

FAIR WEATHER SEEN

NEW YORK, June 19—(AP)—The Weather Bureau promised fair weather for the 75,000 fans expected to witness the Joe Louis - Billy Conn heavyweight championship fight at the Yankee Stadium tonight (8 p.m., Birmingham time).

The forecast for fight time was for gentle to easterly winds, cloudy skies and cool, with the temperature hovering around 55 degrees.

The champion and challenger who meet before the wondering multitude in the Yankee Stadium still are unknown quantities as far as actual ability stands. Sparring partners are not substitutes for opponents trying to knock out your brains or stop you with a punch. They are physical conditioners, but not competitive conditioners—and here we find a mighty difference. The fact that both champ and challenger are dead game and that both are packed with pride, that both have been looking to this June night for five years, at least guarantees the best both have to offer. That is the one certainty in this championship test. B'ham

Louis and Conn are taking no gamble, but, contrary to general belief, Mike Jacobs is; for if this $100-per-ringside-seat, $2,500,000 spectacle turns out to be a rather dull $10 or $20 contest Michael will need the solace of his New Jersey petunia beds in which to nurse a record headache. The ensuing uproar will be volcanic, although it required an unbelievable sucker list to bring about such a financial build-up. This one had better be better than good, or indignant repercussions are certain. Anything approaching a thriller can cure the pains of price—but a thriller is needed. Alabama

Louis, with his weight advantage of more than 25 pounds, with his longer reach, with his far more dangerous punching power, must be given the edge. Louis may win quickly, but the faster, younger Conn must be given a chance better than 2 to 1. Louis is the sounder choice—but not by an overwhelming margin. Conn can be rated at even money if he can slip safely by the sixth round. Will he? We don't know.

Latest Odds Make Champ 12-5 Choice

Joe Reaching His Top Form

Times-Dispatch

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 10—(AP)—Settling all arguments as to just how far along he believes he has come in his training, Joe Louis made it clear today he will work out only five more times before saying howdy to Billy Conn in Yankee Stadium June 19.

This was somewhat of a switch from events over the week end when, for the first time in his fistic career, he worked more than six rounds at a practice session, both Saturday and Sunday.

"I'm in good shape and by the time the fight comes around, I'll be ready for the full 15 rounds," Joe explained as he took the day off from his drilling which now has sliced his poundage down to 212. "I may not have to go the full route, because I'll take advantage of the first chance to end it that comes along. "But if it lasts all the way, I'll be all set for that, too."

However, in tipping off the folks that his schedule calls only for workouts tomorrow and Thursday and three more over the week end before heb reaks camp and heads for the toughest fight of his ten-year reign as king of the ring, Joe didn't altogether throw caution to the winds. Tues. 6-11-46

Fast Approaching Peak

He hinted that he may maintain his stepped-up swatting pace at each session and continue sparring more than six rounds at a clip.

There is no doubt, watching him in his workouts here, that Joe has come a long way. Where the experts were hinting that he was far short of fighting shape only three weeks ago, they're now admitting that he is approaching his top form. Richmond Va.

He has lost considerable of the speed he had before the war, and his defensive reflexes don't click any too well, but he won't be short in his conditioning, he insists.

"And don't forget, too," he went on, "I'm gonna win."

The odds today were understood to be fluctuating between 11-to-5 and 12-to-5 in Louis' favor, somewhat shorter than they were a week ago.

'I Won't Try For Kayo'--Conn

Times-Dispatch

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 10—(AP)—Billy Conn sat relaxed in the sun at his somnolent training camp today and told calmly and with confidence exactly how he intends to win the heavyweight crown from Joe Louis on the night of June 19.

The Pittsburgh scrapper, who was enjoying a day of complete rest, did not at any time disparage Joe's ability. He has a great deal of respect for the big Negro who knocked him out in their last meeting. He simply has it figured out to his own satisfaction that he can win this time if he doesn't do anything foolish.

"I won't be trying for any knockout this time," he said. "I tried that the last time, and Joe fixed me good. I can still see that right coming in the thirteenth round that started me going. I was trying to bring a left up from the floor. Tues. 6-11-46

"This time you can bet I won't try anything like that unless I've seen Joe bounce off the canvas. He hits too hard to try to stand up flat-footed and slug with him. He's too big and he hits too hard, but mostly he just hits too hard."

Billy paused to laugh a little grimly at his own joke.

"Joe's a good boxer, too," he continued. "He can jab and hook good, and he keeps his hands up. The only way to beat him is to box him, and I mean to keep going from side to side—not just in and out. I was beating him the last time that way without any trouble, wasn't I?" Richmond

Conn weighed 182 when he climbed out of bed today, or only two pounds above what he wants to scale on the day of the fight. In other words, he is ready. Some members of his entourage suggested that he lay off tomorrow, too, but Billy said he would put in his regular stint, including road work and boxing. Va.

Conn Impresses With Speed And Punch; Louis Idle

Age-Herald Birmingham Ala.

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., May 29—(AP)—National Boxing Association President Abe J. Greene today watched Billy Conn box eight rounds with four sparmates in preparation for his June 19 fight with Joe Louis and was impressed by the heavyweight challenger's "speed and punch."

"He looks close to peak," Greene said after seeing Billy belt Mickey McAvoy, Jimmy Smith, Erv Sarlin and Jim Neville for two rounds each. "His hook has improved a great deal and he throws it from every angle now." 5-30-46

NEW YORK, May 29—(AP)—Joe Louis took a day off from his boxing drills for his June 19 fight with Billy Conn today, and came in from his Pompton Lakes, N. J. training camp to go to the mat with Promoter Mike Jacobs on getting some tickets for friends. Thurs.

This is becoming increasingly difficult as the hot sale of pasteboards continues day after day. Already the $10 reserved seat sections are virtually sold out and a large portion of the batch of $100 tickets that have been printed up to now are gone. However, Mike will have more in from the printers when he needs them.

...SPORT-LIGHT...

JOHN I. JOHNSON, Sports Editor

In just five nights from tonight, Friday night, the curtain will rise on one of the biggest fistic shows of all-time—a predicted three-million-dollar stellar presentation that will get underway in Yankee stadium when Joe Louis, heavyweight champion of the world, comes shuffling forward to meet the leading challenger for his title—Irish Billy Conn, who is a Dapper Dan of the squared circle, reputed to be a master boxer, but whose only logical right to be in the same ring with Louis at all is the fact that in their last setto the champ let him linger around long enough to get a wee-peep of the thirteenth round before the bough broke and down came Conn, his boxing speed and all, to snore out the count, on the tarpaulin rug.

There is no reason at all to believe that Billy Conn will make any better showing in the coming melee than he did in the last. He doesn't have all the equipment he had then. He is not as fast. He can't hit any harder. He is not as young and, most important, he hasn't forgotten that terrific sock on the chin that turned ring posts into a merry-go-round spinning in a field of crazily moving stars before a great darkness obliterated his awareness of things general and specific.

CONN IS LIKE THE BEAR

Conn's greatest fistic merit is the fact that he stayed long enough in the same ring with Joe Louis to get a flea's-eye peek at the thirteenth round. He has nothing else comparable to this fete in his entire career.

Following his punch-provoked siesta with Joe in 1941, Conn's record in the ring is a nap-story one. He eked out three "aint-gonna-write-home-and-tell" decisions, the last one with middleweight champ Tony Zale, in the Garden in 1942, in which Conn won, but grabbed a chair and a fan at the end of the 12-round fracas, although he outweighed Zale 15 pounds.

Gene Tunney was undoubtedly wrong when he called Conn, as a logical contender for Louis's crown, "a joke." Perhaps the former champion, who was a master boxer in his own right, meant to imply that Conn was a lucky pugilist to stay on his feet as long as he did in his first fight with the champ. Conn is a good boxer. He is game and he has a good punch and a fast left jab. But it will take a lot of four-leaf clovers for him to ward off an early evening snooze in this second bout with Louis. Tunney knows this to be true. He attempted to say so, but, somehow, the wrong words came out.

NEVER PLAY A CHAMP CHEAP

Several sports writers have returned from the training camps of the fighters with impressions that favor Conn over Louis in the matter of condition. Conn, they said, is fast of foot, sharp in punching and has just about reached the peak. Louis, on the other hand, they said, is slow, somewhat sluggish, takes lots of punches from his sparring mates, has poor timing, does not pace himself, doesn't listen to advice of his trainers.

All of this sort of talk is just so much applebutter without sugar. While Louis does not rate as one of the world's great thinkers, his record shows that he does have good common sense. And probably his most cherished possession is his championship. For him to monkey around in a state of unpreparedness when his crown is at stake is entirely out of character for the champ and out of reason for those who have followed his fistic path. When the gong sounds for the slaughter to begin, Conn, for one, will know how misleading these informants have been.

Listen to what Joe says about the fight:

"I overtrained for my first bout with Conn. I trained down under 200 pounds because I knew Conn was really a light-heavyweight. That was the only time in my seventeen bouts that I entered the ring under 200 pounds. This time I want to be at about 210. I want to be as strong as a bull. I have the coming battle mapped out.

"No matter how much I train I could never be as fast as Conn, nor could I match him in his fancy footwork. But when I enter the ring I will be strong. I'm satisfied with my progress and I don't intend to change my program to impress any one."

Conn lost his head in his last bout with Joe, so they say. He is supposed to have rushed in with a wild Irish temper. Joe was waiting for this moment. The world knows the result.

In this coming fight, Joe, who makes short work of all who want a second shot at his crown, will go to work earlier than he did in the last bout. Billy Conn will be in for a very rough but short evening's work.

Somewhere before the eighth round Billy Conn will be traveling in space, but his body will be lying helpless on the canvas-covered floor. And believe you me this is not wishful thinking.

Braddock Picks Conn to Win

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J. June 13—(AP)—The same official medicine men who couldn't get the least bit hilarious about Joe Louis' condition gave out rave notices on Billy Conn today. But they weren't any higher on Sweet William than two ex-heavyweight champions, on hand to watch a savage six-round drill.

Reading from left to right, this pair of one-time clout kings were Jack Dempsey and Jim Braddock, who saw a "mean" Conn clobber a trio of sparmates all over the place. While Dempsey only went so far as to say Billy was "just as good as ever and punches harder now," the Cinderella man from whom Louis won the title went all the way and picked Billy to dethrone Joe next Wednesday in Yankee Stadium.

The medicine men—Drs. William Walker and Vincent Nardiello— gave Conn their final prefight double-0 for the New York State Athletic Commission, just as they did to Louis two days ago, when they discovered that after Joe finished his workout his blood pressure went far higher than expected.

"Conn today showed me one of the most remarkable things I've ever seen," Walker stated flatly. "After all that exercise—Billy worked six rounds on the gym floor as well as the six in the ring—his pulse only went up to 90, and it came down to a normal 70 again within 10 minutes.

"And in contrast to Louis, Billy's blood pressure went down instead of going up, as oJe's did. I don't remember any fighter in a long time with a blood pressure as stable as Billy's. Louis alawys ran a fairly low blood pressure in the past. That's why his pressure the other day surprised us."

Nardiello said Conn's blood count reminded him of Max Baer. When some one wanted to know whether that was good or bad, he hastened to explain he meant the Baer who knocked out Max Schmeling.

Billy's punching, accompanied by what amounted to a snarling meanness, was so sharp in his sparring scuffle that Ray decided to give him the whole day off tomorrow and wind up training with drilles Saturday, Sunday, Monday and a lighter waltz Tuesday.

'I'll Box His Ears Off,' Boasts Conn; Louis Is Unworried

Joe Nonchalant And Confident

By Gayle Talbot
Associated Press Sports Writer

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 14—Joe Louis, in earnest training for his meeting with Billy Conn next Wednesday evening, snoozed placidly through much of a rainy day today, rousing his large self only occasionally to eat and inquire if the fish were biting.

The champion took full advantage of his last complete day of rest before he lays his title on the line in Yankee Stadium. He intends to box six rounds tomorrow, eight on Sunday and a final four-round stint Monday, with a few miles of road work each morning.

The feeling around Joe's camp was that the big Negro probably would take things very easy against his sparring partners from here on, risking no last-minute injuries to his hands and taking no chances of incurring a cut on his face that Conn might be able to work on.

Louis Is Not Worried

Perhaps the most important information elicited in a careful investigation of the Louis camp today was the fact, vouched for by Joe's personal cook, Bill Bottoms, that the champion is eating a lot better than he did, before his first scrap with Conn five years ago.

"Before that other fight, Joe worried me the way he dieted," recalled Bottoms. "I told him he wasn't eating enough, and sure enough, his arms got weary along about the eighth round.

"This time I told him: 'Joe, you forget about that dieting and eat plenty. Don't worry about your weight. Just train and eat plenty and you'll be all right.' That's what he's been doing, and he's strong as a bushel of onions."

Joe Convinces Eight Reporters

For that matter, a hasty poll today of eight sports writers from a half-dozen cities brought eight votes for Louis to win by a knockout somewhere between the third and eleventh rounds. It just happened that all of the eight saw Louis box yesterday and saw him nearly decapitate Al Hoosman, a good heavyweight, with a right. That one punch, in other words, was an eye-full.

It is entirely probable that a similar poll of eight observers who watched Conn work at his nearby camp at Greenwood Lake yesterday would have shown a unanimous vote for Billy the Kid. It is that kind of a proposition.

The Louis adherents were whispering around today that Joe had expressed the private opinion he would stow Conn away inside four rounds. For publication, Joe remained pretty hush-mouthed, merely exuding confidence from every pore during the brief intervals he wasn't sleeping.

Jeffries Selects Joe Louis to Win

BURBANK, CALIF., June 14—(AP)—Former Heavyweight Champion James J. Jeffries today picked Champion Joe Louis to beat Billy Conn next Wednesday night in their title fight.

"I always like a powerful hitter over a clever boxer," said Jeffries, "and I think Joe will stop Billy in much less time than the 13 rounds it took him in their last fight. If Louis fails to beat Conn, he just isn't the great fighter I think he is—or he has gone way, way back in the last five years."

'I'll Be Champ,' Says Challenger

By Sid Feder
Associated Press Sports Writer

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 14—Some of the fellows were saying that the way Billy Conn has been training, and throwing haymakers, and all, it looked as if he was figuring on going out there and flattening Joe Louis Wednesday night. Billy just grinned about it.

"Now wouldn't that be smart?" he tossed off. "The last time I had Joe beat for 12 rounds just on boxing, then I went out and slugged with him in the thirteenth and he put the lights out for me.

"Does it figure I'll be making the same mistake again? Nope—Willie isn't that dumb. He can take a hint."

So you take it from the guy most interested in the proceedings—Mr. Conn—that the idea of walking out and knocking the roof in on Joe is almost as far from his mind as the thought of his

own losing. At the moment William doesn't see how he can miss.

"I'll Be the Champ"

"I'm going to box him all the way," he outlined his strategy. "I know I'm as fast as I was five years ago. I feel strong and I'm in shape. I'll box his ears off—and I'll be the champ."

Now, that does not mean that Conn won't be willing to move right in on Joe and punch. He did that the last time without losing any limbs. When he was told that a forcing, forward-going fight is on Louis' mind, too, for the forthcoming festivities, he thought that was just dandy, because it would set off some firecrackers, and Billy's the kind of Irishman who would almost rather fight than eat. Unless it's steak, anyway.

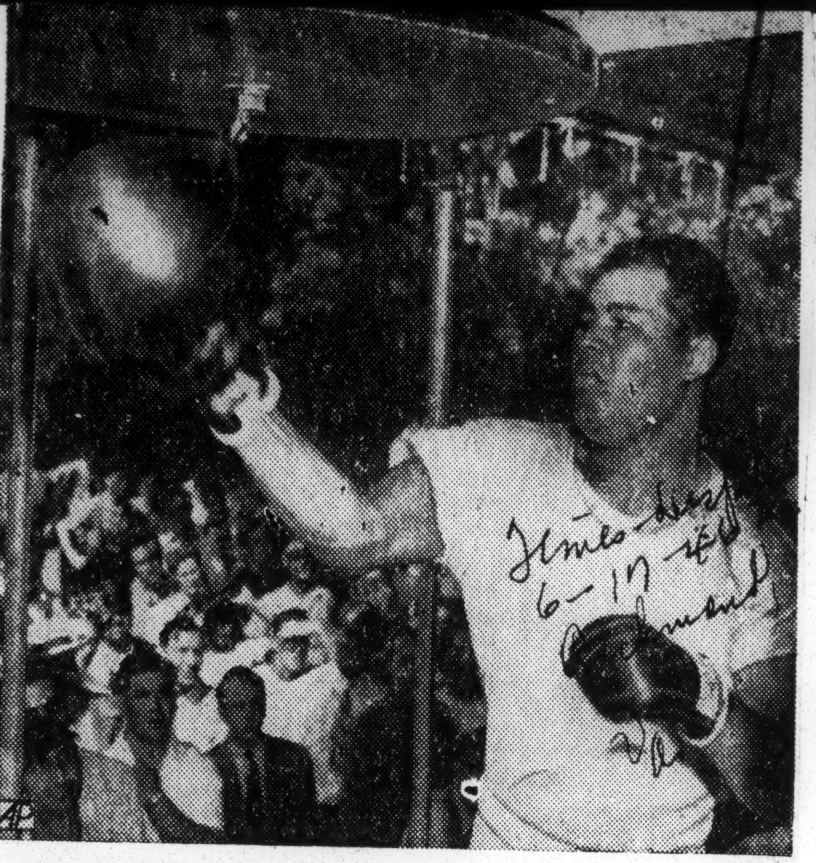
Enjoys Day of Rest

There's little doubt "Junior" is a stiffer swatter now than he was five years ago. The eight to 10 pounds he's put on since then all have been added around the neck and shoulders, giving him more power, as his well-splattered sparmates will attest. To the Pittsburgh pretty boy's way of thinking, that only makes his boxing and speed more dangerous. These qualities of Willie's are so hot right now that he had to take today off from work—except for his morning road run—to cool them off a bit.

"No—I'm not thinking of a kayo, that's for sure," he repeated, "unless, of course, I see a leg fall off Joe, or something. I'd have to throw that big one then, wouldn't I?"

Louis Files Suit

CHICAGO, June 14—(AP)—Heavyweight Boxing Champion Joe Louis today filed suit in circuit court for $100,000, charging he had been libeled in the May issue of "Ebony," a magazine published by the Negro Digest Company, of Chicago. Louis contended the article was false and scandalous."



JOE LOUIS—Gives the punching bag a going over with the deadly right hand. The champion is gradually rounding into form for the big tussle and will be ready when the bell sounds at about 10 P. M. on Wednesday.

THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

JOE LOUIS, NOW 32 years old, defends his world heavyweight title against Billy Conn in Yankee Stadium, New York, on Wednesday night, June 19. It will be the 23rd time that Joe has laid his title on the line since he won it from Jimmy Braddock in White Sox Park on June 22, 1937. In that bout Louis knocked Braddock out in the 8th round.

Fay Young

On that day back in 1937, Louis entered the ring a 5 to 2 favorite to win the championship from Braddock. From that day on, in all of his title defense bouts, Louis has been the favorite in the betting.

Louis was a 10 to 1 shot to beat Tommy Farr, 12 to 1 against Nathan Mann and 20 to 1 to beat Harry Thomas. In the second Louis vs. Max Schmeling fight, Louis was a 9 to 5 favorite. Against John Henry Lewis, former world light-heavyweight champion, Joe was quoted at 15 to 1. Against Jack Roper, the Brown Bomber was 10 to 1 and 8 to 1 against Tony Galento.

The champion was 10 to 1 against Bob Pastor in the second fight between the pair and the same odds prevailed on the eve of Louis' first fight with Arturo Godoy. In his second fight against Godoy, Louis was an 8 to 1 shot to win.

Other odds with Louis as the favorite were: against Johnny Paycheck, 12 to 1; against Gus Dorazio, 15 to 1; against Abe Simon, first fight, 18 to 1; against Abe Simon, second fight, 8 to 1; against Tony Musto, 20 to 1; against Buddy Baer, first fight, 10 to 1; against Buddy Baer, second fight, 6 to 1; against Lou Nova, 13 to 5 and against Billy Conn on June 18, 1941, Louis was 18 to 5.

There has been little betting done so far on the coming second bout with Conn. We have seen some wagers taken that Conn would win and the surprising thing was that Conn's backers were Negro fight fans.

AT EVERY FIGHT program from now until June 19, the chief topic will be the condition of Louis and Conn. There will be plenty of wagering but not until the bookmakers get the odds down where they want them. Until then you'll hear many stories—some true, some false. There is a definite reason for some of the gossip circulated by word of mouth. The reason is to influence the betting.

On the other hand, from Pompton Lakes, N. J., comes word from Louis' camp that the Brown Bomber has some good sparring partners in Al Hoosman, former South Pacific champion heavyweight; George Fitch from New Haven, Conn.; Perk Daniels of Chicago and Jimmy Bell of Washington, D. C.

But the fans are wondering why Larry Amadee, the Chicago trainer who knows Louis well and who has assisted the late Jack Blackburn in the training of the champion for all of his defense title bouts except against Abe Simon when the latter unsuccessfully tried the second time to dethrone the Brown Bomber, is not down at Pompton Lakes.

Since Louis depended so much on Blackburn even in the training for the championship back in 1937 and after Louis left the amateur ranks, it seems to most of the fans that Amadee is the man who ought now to be at the champion's side. Why he isn't there is a puzzle. Larry has been invited to come to New York four days prior to the fight and be in Joe's corner.

All of it makes a good subject for the interesting arguments. The fact remains that Louis is under the care of new hands, even a new manager (he having dumped Julian Black in an unceremonious manner because Julian refused to be an errand boy) gives many of Louis' former backers a case of jitters.

Promoters Confer

New York, May 28 (AP).—Jim Downing, Salt Lake City boxing promoter, conferred here today with Mike Jacobs, head of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club. Downing was reported to be seeking Jacobs' assistance in staging a heavyweight championship bout next year in Utah as part of that State's centennial celebration.

Conn's Pilot and Mike Jacobs Engage in Verbal Explosion

Greenwood Lake, N. J., May 28 (AP).—There is always an explosion of one sort or another going off in a Billy Conn training camp. Today's sizzler was a nice quiet brawl between Johnny Ray, Billy's manager, and Promoter Mike Jacobs, that could be heard, anyway, 13 miles.

This one came off in New York this morning. Ray still had the fuse lit when he got back here in time for Billy's eight-round workout, in which the Pittsburgh pretty boy demonstrated in the best accepted manner that he's a lot closer to being in fighting shape right now than Joe Louis and that his speed and his viciousness when he's in there swatting are nothing to fool with without a flak vest.

Tickets Start Trouble

The rhubarbs between Johnny and Mike began peacefully enough, with Ray asking for some tickets within radar distance of the Yankee Stadium ring for "Junior's" June 19 jamboree with Louis to fill the requests of some Pittsburgh pals. When it comes to asking Mike for tickets, it is well known that you might just as well suggest taking one of Mike's arms.

As a result, before it was over, Johnny had charged Jacobs with being "Louis' manager and protector," and the next step was for Mike to order Ray out of his offices and leave instructions to bar him whenever he makes an appearance in the future.

"If that's the way you want it, okay," Johnny informed Jacobs and anyone else within five blocks, "but when my Billy wins the heavyweight championship next month, you'll have to come to my office in Pittsburgh to see me. And when you do, I'll have two doormen on the door with orders to keep you out.

"You're Louis' manager and protector," Johnny went on for the entertainment of one and all, "and when he wants something, you see that he gets it. He's got a lot going for him, and we don't have anything going for us. Well, we'll take care of that June 19."

Punches Sparmates

There may be something in what Johnny says, at that, at least off the way Billy laid large left hands on the persons of four sparring partners for two rounds apiece today.

Last week Louis' sparmates splattered him with southpaw shoots as though they'd taken a lease on him. From the way the Pittsburgh pretty boy peppered Mickey McAvoy, Jimmy Smith, Erv Sarlin and Jim Neville with the off-side swats today, raising especial lumps on Smith and Neville, it appears Joe is going to have his catcher's mitt in better working order than it has been up to now.

Billy was down to about 183 pounds, within a couple of pounds of the weight he expects to be packing in the ring against Joe, and is getting that fine, drawn look of an ear-scrambled fighter approaching his peak.

Although he'll be some eight pounds heavier this time than he was the night Louis turned the lights out on him five years ago, his older sparmates—those playing a return engagement in this camp—say Conn hasn't lost any of his speed. Anyway, he still bounces around the premises with the zip of a soft-shoe dancer, and appears about as easy to hit solidly as trying to catch a sparrow on the wing with a watermelon.

Odds on Louis Keep Going Up

Odds on Joe Louis to retain his heavyweight championship in his battle with Billy Conn last night soared to 3½-to-1 just before the fight and the price was still rising at ringside as the deadline for the fight neared.

Betting on Louis apparently began to get heavier after the weigh-in ceremonies at Madison Square Garden at noon, when the champion came in at 207, two or three pounds lighter than he had expected to scale, and eight pounds over his weight for his first fight with Conn five years ago, when he said he had been trained too fine.

Conn weighed in at 182 also eight pounds more than his official weight for the last fight and some 12 pounds over his actual weight at the time of the first bell. Louis, who weighed a half-pound less than he did in his last title defense against Abe Simon, in 1942, looked trim and there were surprised whistles from newsmen and officials who attended the weighing in when the champion's weight was announced.

Both fighters were pronounced in "wonderful shape" by Boxing Commission physicians.

As the crowds poured slowly into the Stadium, late estimates placed the house at 70,000 and the gate at some $2,225,000.

'Word' Has Joseph 3d Man In Ring As Conn, Louis Conclude Training

By SID FEDER

New York, June 17 (AP)—Old Pa Knickerbocker's dress-up suit began to come apart at the seams today as an invading army of fight fans hit town amid rumors that Wednesday's heavyweight championship fight would see the same referee who worked the last bout five years ago.

Both Joe Louis and Billy Conn wound up training today, except for some mild muscle-loosening tomorrow. With both ready for the call, the chief talk centered around just who would be the third man in the ring at Yankee Stadium. The word was that Eddie Joseph, a sturdy ex-welterweight of the late 'teens with salt-and-pepper hair and a quiet way, would be "it" again.

ELIMINATION

Mostly, the guessing as to the identity of the arbiter for this close-to-$3,000,000 production has been done by a process of elimination. Up to now, the referee has generally been expected to come from a quartet of ex-fighters who've been working around these parts quite somewhat, lately. And State Athletic Commission Chairman Eddie Eagan doesn't deny it. Ruby Goldstein, the one-time "Gem of the Ghetto," and Joseph, an engineer, have been out in front in the race, with Ex-Lightweight Champion Benny Leonard and Frank Fullam, currently an athletic instructor, close behind.

But a story naming Leonard definitely as the referee a couple of weeks ago is expected to react against the retired undefeated 135-pound king's chances. While Eagan admits he still has Goldstein under consideration, he points out that since Ruby was in the same Army athletic set-up with Louis, and made an exhibition tour of Alaska with the Bomber when they both were G.I.'s, it probably "would be unfair to name him." As for Fullam, it has been noted that he has seen considerable arbitrating action in the past few weeks, which would indicate he is not being saved for the big show.

BOX FOUR

Neither fighter had any important "beef" against Joseph's handling of the fight the last time, although it is admitted that with two such classy clout artists as "Sweet William" and "Joe the Jolter" all a referee has to do is keep out of their way when they go to work.

Each of them boxed four rounds today to put on the final touches to their training. Billy worked against Sammy Schipani, a swift welterweight from Pittsburgh to sharpen up his speed, and Joe, after a six-mile road run, took on his regular sparmates. "Sweet William" finished with the remark that after the long two-month drilling grind, "the easy part comes now—all I have to do is meet Joe." Louis, looking for a quick night's work, promised that Billy "won't get away from me this time." This corner picks Conn to dethrone Louis in the Bomber's 22d defense of the fight-game's fanciest bauble.

TOWN PACKED

Manhattan was like one huge bargain basement sale of nylons. Every hotel in town was packed as the faithful poured in by the hundreds and the thousands. Empty linen closets and spare telephone booths looked like penthouse suites to the unfortunates with no place to bunk for the next two nights.

Restaurants, already "hurting" for raw materials, had the S.R.O. signs out and swinging. The rope was up in every night club. Business men tell you the fight is bringing $8,000,000 in trade to the city. Phones were so jammed that Harry Markson, Promoter Mike Jacobs' chief tub-thumper, had to leave his office and use an outside pay-station to make his calls.

As a result, Mike was optimistic about the downpour of dollars into his rain barrels for Wednesday's walloping, although the sale lagged somewhat over the week end. Up to now nearly 80 per cent of the sale has been from out-of-town fans.

"We have over $2,000,000 in," he pointed out, "We're a cinch to go over $2,500,000. We're pretty sure of breaking the record ($2,658,660 for the second Dempsey?Tunney fight). And I'm not quitting yet on the hope of hitting $3,000,000."

With Joe apparently going to come in at 208—two pounds under his announced intentions—and Billy tipping the beam at a pound or two over 180, which is large for him, the 49th Street betting shops reported a continued swing toward the Pittsburgh pretty boy by the smart money. However, although the action stepped up a bit today, they all were somewhat surprised that the betting "play" was far slower than expected, with the price now down to 5-11½ in Louis' favor.

This Morning

—With Shirley Povich

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 16.—Roughly 135 million persons in the United States would like to avoid, if possible, getting into the same ring with Joe Louis. The exception is Billy "The Kid" Conn, who with positive relish is anticipating his date with Louis at Yankee Stadium on Wednesday evening.

POVICH

Conn's kind of philosophy is wonderful, for a fifhter. The fellow actually thinks that at the moment when the referee calls him and Louis to the center of the ring for instructions, he should be the most envied man in the world—the fellow who is getting a shot at the world heavyweight championship. Before the evening is out, he'll have the title, Conn thinks.

The world heavyweight championship is the most prized possession in the world, in Conn's estimation. The Presidency of the United States, or the U. N., or the World Bank, are rated as pretty fair jobs by Conn. But he'd rather be the guy who has Joe Louis' title. That would give him top standing with most of the guys he knows, particularly the gang back in Pittsburgh who fought in the streets with him.

Conn is less of a businessma fighter than anybody who ever was in there against Louis. If the gate hits five million dollars, Conn may get as much as $500,000 for his end, less taxes, but it's the title he wants. He always was a fast guy with a dollar, which with Conn has always been something to spend. Wealth, without the title, would leave him frustrated.

Even Joe Louis' camp and the considerable segment of expert opinion that holds Conn has little chance to lift Louis' title concede that Billy the Kid will be the most unscared challenger Louis has ever fought. Louis himself has said "Maybe Billy is too brave for his own good."

For the past week, a New York newspaper has been running a series of articles delineating the failures of all men who have fight Louis a second time. In every case—Bob Pastor, Arturo Gody, Max Schmeling, Natie Brown, et al., Louis has knocked them out the second time around.

But all efforts to intimidate Conn with such reminders are completely lost on him. "Nuts," says Conn in one well-chosen word that that expresses his feelings on the subject. He doesn't feel he is the least bit doomed because he's fighting Louis a second time.

Conn is irked a bit, too, by the suggestion that Louis knocks 'em dead with one punch. "He hit me a lot of good belts in the early rounds of our last fight, and never slowed me up," says Billy. "When I did go down, it wasn't from one punch. The pictures show that. He had to land a dozen on my chin before he finally put me down, and that was my own fault. I shouldn't have been hit in the first place."

Louis does have to his credit, however, two scintillating one-punch knockouts. Those were over Paulino Uzcudun and Lou Nova. It was the victory over Paulino that first established Louis as a hard hitter in the public mind. Nobody had ever stopped the Basque until Louis did it, with one punch. Paulino got too bold. He found he could reach Louis with a left hand and came out of his shell to try it once too often. A Louis left to the chin caved him in and they counted him out.

In the Nova fight, Louis simply waited with the wonderful patience he has, until the right opening showed. That didn't occur until the sixth round and then Joe chilled Nova with the straightest, fastest, perhaps hardest right hand shot to the jaw ever seen. No other punch was needed.

In Louis' camp, Conn's name is scarcely mentioned unless newspapermen bring it up in the direct-quote intervals with the champion, but over at Conn's place 16 miles away there's nothing verboten about Louis. Conn, his handlers and friends talk freely about the champion. Like one street-corner gang boasting of what it's going to do to another.

Jackie Conn, younger and wilder brother of Billy who on occasion works as sparring partner, goes around the place bragging about how they'll have the title before the week is out. "Billy's left hook will close Louis' right eye in the first two rounds, I'm tellin' ya," is Jackie's favorite comment.

Conn, himself, says he has no particular quarrel with Louis except that "Joe's had that title too long, and I want it. He's a nice guy, but why should one man keep a title that long. I'm desperate. This may be my last chance to get it."

This Morning

—With Shirley Povich

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 13.—The impression you get in the Billy Conn training camp is that he's going to fight Gene Tunney next Wednesday night, not Joe Louis. Billy Boy is so boiling mad at Tunney who has said that Conn wouldn't last beyond two rounds with Louis, that he talks more about the retired champion than he does of the incumbent.

POVICH

Conn gets off cracks like "I wish I was going in there with Tunney next week, on the best day he ever had. He's got a nerve poppin' off the way he's doing. Who did he ever lick, that was in shape?"

Conn's hate for Tunney is going to be in his corner when he crawls through the ropes against Louis at Yankee Stadium. He wants to beat Louis and then thumb his nose at Tunney from the ringside as his first act as the new champion.

The mention of Tunney's name at Greenwood Lake sends Conn off on a tantrum of spleen toward the retired champion who also is on record with the statement that neither Conn nor Louis could be in shape after their five-year layoff, and that the public was overpaying for the fight.

Conn has a couple of ready reminders of his feeling towards Tunney posted in his quarters. There's a big portrait of Tunney displayed in the place, and it isn't in Conn's living room. There's also a pix in the Conn camp showing Tunney in action. That one is Conn's special pride, and he points it out to visitors. It shows Tunney flat on his back, getting the long count in Chicago in 1927

"There's the guy who's taking cracks at me," says Conn derisively. "Ain't he a great one? He's losing the title the first time he defends it if he don't get that long count. He ought to go mind his stocks and bonds."

No challenger's training camp ever exuded the prefight confidence that drips at Greenwood Lake. Conn is talking about the date he has with Toots Shor Wednesday at midnight to celebrate his new title. Just yesterday, one of his comanagers bet $5000 against $12,500 that Conn would be the new champion.

As I might have said before, Conn's camp for the past week has been looking like a suburb of Pittsburgh, with Art Rooney and dozens of Conn's hometown cronies over-running the place, spouting their confidence in what Billy will do to Louis Wednesday night.

The old gang from the corner of Dennison and Penn blew in today, Conn's chums from the Peabody Club pool room in Pittsburgh where Billy's fame as a street fighter preceded his entry into the racket as a profession. They'll fight the guy who breathes the possibility that Louis will lick their guy.

Billy loves it all. Everybody has the run of the place, and nobody cracks down on anybody as long as he's for Conn. Johnny Ray, his manager, doesn't mind the informality of it all. He's from Pittsburgh, too, and looking it with his broken nose just like Billy's and just like the bent proboscis of so many of Conn's Pittsburgh pals.

6-14-46 Friday

Manager Johnny is the little ex-featherweight who came along in Harry Greb's time, and in fact was a stablemate of Greb when Greb was beating Tunney, and setting the style for Pittsburgh fighters to act like the toughest guys in the business. Who looked tougher, or was tougher than Fritzie Zivic, another graduate of the Pittsburgh streets?

Washington, D.C.

With Ray there's no fuss and feathers about running a camp on lines resembling high deference to the champion or other such training camp protocol as marks Joe Louis' place 16 miles away. Ray talks to Conn, to the correspondents, to the spectators and to anybody else within earshot as if he's going to disappoint somebody if he doesn't talk, and from the side of his mouth.

Ray doesn't pay much heed to what goes on at Conn's place except what goes with Conn himself. He doesn't think it is unseemly for a manager to stand on the ring apron and bark at Conn if he sees something wrong, or otherwise talk tough to the challenger if need be, and be damned who else may be listening. With Ray around, it's something out of the Corbett-Sullivan era.

Right now, Conn is mad at the New York sports commentator who billed the fight all over his pages with the comment that the $100 price for ringside seats was ridiculous, and declared the fight between a couple of prewar has-beens wasn't worth over $10 ringside.

"What's eating that guy?"—said Billy. "He's a fine guy to be saying they're charging too much for the fight. That stuff he writes peddles for two cents a copy, and that's the biggest over charge I know."

This Morning

Post

With Shirley Povich

New York, June 19.—It was the weighing in at the Garden at noon, outside on 49th st., police with locked arms were restraining the curious crowds eager for a glimpse of the champion and challenger. Isnde, the bare, unroped ring was beginning to fill with boxing commission brass, examining physicians and plain, privileged characters.

POVICH

The dwindling siren screech of the motor cop escort was heard plainly through the open windows, notice that Joe Louis was arriving from his New Jersey camp. The scales were placed in mid-ring, and radio men moved the microphone alongside. Four hundred reporters and photographers had the place covered.

Louise came down the aisle a step behind Promoter Mike Jacobs, with his trainer, Mannie Seamon, and his manager, Marshall Miles, a pace behind. As he hove into view his face was set and tense. He wore the same white bathrobe and apparently the same shoddy slippers that he always reserves for the weighing in.

The champion was the picture of grimaces as he mounted the steps to the ring. The outstretched hand of Boxing Commission Chairman Eddie Egan broke the ice. Joe grabbed it, and smiled. Then he looked about, and nodded to a half dozen persons. Then the attention shifted. Billy Conn was coming in.

Thursday—6-20-46

Conn's entrance into the ring was a bit on the jaunty side. Unlike Louis, he was naked except for his trunks and street shoes. Louis stretched out a hand and Conn took it. It was a sort of dead fish greeting, but now they both worked up a smile.

Louis went on the scales first. Chairman Egan himself manipulated the weights. There was a bit of hush, then something of a gasp as Egan announced "207." That was a pound lighter than Louis himself had predicted. The heaviest weight, however, at which he has ever fought.

Now it was Conn's turn, he kicked off his unlaced shoes. He peered intently at the scale-marks as Egan found the balance. Conn looked at Egan and said "I'm getting fat, I guess." Egan announced it as "182." Conn had grown up.

First Louis, then Conn submitted to the examination of the doctors—heart beat and blood pressure. At the physicians' direction they hopped first on one foot, then the other, for thirty seconds, looking a bit silly. That was for pulse. During those thirty seconds, Louis' pulse had gone from 62 to 80. Conn's from 60 to 66.

Louis, through first, left the ring without a word to Conn. Then the challenger was led away by Manager Johnny Ray. It had been an interesting little tableau. To all appearances, Louis was the same as in a hundred other weighing-ins. Completely impassive. Conn was more expressive, and apparently not the least bit scared or worried.

Washington, D.C.

Newsmen turned to the examining doctors, William Walker and Vincent Nardiello. "They're both in good shape," said Walker. How about Nardiello, who a week ago had said Louis' reflexes were sluggish? What did he think now. "I think Conn is in the better shape," he said.

What did the stepped-up pulse beat of Louis mean? Dr. Nardiello talked fronkly. "To me it means Louis will tire more quickly than Conn. I said that last week, and it still goes."

Old timers said they'd never seen a fighter as ice-cold as Louis at a weighing in. Unless it was Tunney. Even Dempsey was nervous on the day before the fight. The peak in prefight unconcern was recorded by Louis, you remember, before the fight with Max Baer, when he calmly stopped on his way to the stadium, called for his fiancee, and got married two hours before ring time.

Tunney with his spectacular calm almost unnerved Tex Rickard on the day of the first fight with Dempsey. That was when he flew to the scene from his Speculator, N. Y., training camp in an era when the flying machine was reserved only for the daring. Tunney delighted in his stunt.

Thursday 6-20-46

Mike Jacobs trembled at the weighing-in when Max Baer and Jimmy Braddock were called to the scales before their title fight. Braddock's manager, Joe Gould, called Baer all the names in the book and a few that aren't listed. Baer started to throw a punch to Gould, then reconsidered. Well he did, or Jacobs might have seen the title change hands at the scales, becaus Braddock would hav jumped into the melee if Baer had let go a punch at Gould.

D.C.

Beef tea, a thick steak and a nap were on Joe Louis' program after the weighing-in. In that respect, Conn is different. His prefight meal in mid-afternoon is not the traditional steak, and he doesn't go for the beef tea. Three boiled eggs and toast are his dish. And he doesn't nap. He thinks it's a pretty good schedule. On his way up to th heavyweight ranks, he licked seven world champions in the lighter classes, he reminds you.

This Morning

Post

With Shirley Povich

To Whom It May Concern:

Post Washington D.C.

New York, June 8.—Mike Jacobs' office has received letters from 75 males and females who want the honor of singing the National Anthem on the night of the Louis-Conn fight, plus the ringside seat that goes with it . . . When Gene Tunney fought Jack Dempsey at Chicago in 1927, his end of the gate receipts was $990,000, but he got a check for one million dollars from Tex Rickard who took a $10,000 check from Tunney in exchange . . . The Conn-Louis fight sale has already topped the two million dollar mark, recalling that Louis turned down a second fight with Conn in September, 1941, because he thought it wouldn't draw . . . Louis says it wasn't Schmeling who knocked him out, or Braddock, Galento or Buddy Baer who knocked him down, who was the hardest puncher he has been in there with. Max Baer hit him harder than anybody else, says the champion . . . Louis is undecided whether the hardest punch he ever threw was the one that knocked out Pauline Uzcudun or the one that knocked out Lou Nova. "Better let those two compare notes," he says . . . Mickey McAvoy, who has been a sparring partner of both Louis and Conn, says Louis is the strongest man he's ever met. "In that ring, he can grab you by the head and lift you off your feet." McAvoy says Conn can take a punch well because of his 18-inch neck, which measures larger than Louis'.

POVICH

The Louis-Conn fight odds haven't varied in more than a week. If you like Conn, the betting commissioners will lay you 13 to 5. If you like Louis, you must lay them 3 to 1 against Conn . . . Buck Newsom knew he was going to be with Washington a week before he asked Connie Mack for his release, and was hinting as much the last time he was at Griffith Stadium with the A's . . . Not only has Griffith always liked Newsom, but Buck is his favorite pinochle partner . . . The honorable discharge button, popularly known as the ruptured duck, got its name from one of the panes on the first mission over Japan, featured in Bob Considine's "Thirty Seconds Over Tokio" . . . Congratulations to Ted Lyons on his new job as manager of the White Sox were cabled from Paris by his old catcher, Moe Berg . . . Cleveland, another strong union town like Pittsburgh, has been selected by Robert Murphy for the next test of the baseball players union as a show-down spot. The club owner who said baseball doesn't need a union because the game is a national institution could be told that union labor is something of a national institution in America, too . . . The report persists that Bing Crosby is trying to buy the Rex Sox, though Owner Tom Yawkey says "I've never met the man."

6-9-46

The man who has more to say about Joe Louis' training than any other is Sugar Ray Robinson, long-time pal of the champion and recognized by Louis as the finest fighter in the world for his pounds and inches. Robinson tells Louis what is right and wrong when he is in the ring with his sparring partners . . . Union labor organizers see little chance of unionizing pro football players because the dough they are getting looks big to fellows just out of college, but the unionist shortly will turn their attention to the underpaid professional hockey players . . . If a Boston court rules that Angelo Bertelli belongs to the Los Angeles club of the All-America Conference instead of the Boston National League team, it will b a painful blow to Boston Owner Ted Collins. He passed up Steve Van Buren three years ago to select Bertelli for his club . . . Sam Cordovano, the old Georgetown guard, who pulled out as vice president of the Buffalo club in the AA Conference has reinvested his money in a trotting

I'M TELLING YOU...

Several months ago, Gene Tunney, a recognized authority, said The Humane Society should stop Joe Louis from hitting Billy Conn. PM, a recognized danger whistle, said people who paid $100 for a fight ticket were racing their mental motor. Result: Today, Mike Jacobs has in his safe $2,000,000 mostly in $100 bills.

Calling the public crazy for throwing away money is a fruitless occupation, like that of the tout, waiting for a bus at the race track, who points to a passing limousine and cries "There goes my sucker!" I know one guy who was doing this when the bus ran over him.

Billy Conn was sitting in the sunshine in the spectators' seats at the training camp at Greenwood Lake and he was talking like a spectator, too. Sometimes it sounded as if he were looking at Billy Conn, the prize fighter, just the same as thousands looked at the man five years ago and the way thousands more will be looking at him (and Louis) next Wednesday night in Yankee Stadium.

About 18 men were sitting around him in the spectators' seats, asking questions with that odd, hesitant shyness that even old-timers use when they talk to the Great Man, whether the Great Man is a president, a general, or a prize fighter.

The thing that Billy Conn said that sounded most as if he were a spectator looking at himself was this:

"If I'd only have missed him with that left hook in the 12th I'd have been all right and I'd have kepp on boxing. And then I'd have been all right."

He shook his head a little and made a kid-like sound of regret, the same sound of plaintive regret a boy makes when he realizes Christmas has gone by and he saved nothing out of it. For Conn, here comes another Christmas, maybe.

* * *

Conn was talking, of course, about the last time he fought Louis. Now plenty of people have pointed out that the judges weren't all scoring the fight for Conn up to that 13th round, when Conn got polished off. But Billy Conn himself shares the notion that all the ordinary spectators who were there that night had. They thought if Conn only kept boxing a couple more rounds, he'd have won. Spectator Billy Conn, looking at Fighter Billy Conn, got that idea, too.

"There was a notion that everybody had for a long while," Conn said, as he sprawled on the seats by the training camp ring. "There was a notion that if Louis hit you you died or something.

"But then he finally belted me some bad ones. He hit me about 25 times. One time I thought the back of my head folded back on my spine, some way.

"And quick as that, I got thinking 'he hit me and I'm all right. He hit me hard and I'm all right.' And then I let him have that left hook, it was in the 12th, no matter what anybody says. And he went over on the ropes and I says to myself, 'Geez! Maybe I can knock out this guy.'"

That's what Conn said, and whether it was what really happened that night, nobody seems to know now, with five years or so gone by. Still it is what Conn thinks and that's it.

"You see," he said, "if only I missed him that time with that left hook, why I'd have been all right."

* * *

Somebody had to put in something at that minute, because the Great Man stopped talking momentarily.

"You'll be all right now, won't you, with about three million bucks coming in and a hundred bucks a seat! "A man said.

"Aw, I'd pay 200 bucks to see this fight!" Conn said, only one-quarter fooling. "I'f interested in this fight. I'd pay 200 bucks."

Conn began being a spectator of himself again, which may be an Irish thing to do, no matter what your job. It has advantages and disadvantages, mostly disadvantages.

"I'm about four years younger than he is, and that's hard work in there. He ought to start getting tired about the eighth. You can't keep away from him just going back and forth. He'll ketch you. You got to go side to side and mix up like a pitcher throws balls. Or he'll ketch you. I figure I'll outpoint him—that's the way to do it. That's the way. And if I do hit him hard, I'm going to take a good look first to see how bad off he is before I go any farther into it. He can be dangerous. But if he hits you, you don't die, like there was a notion one time you did."

And then Conn said a curiously simple sentence which might be a motto for a person who doesn't have to fight for a living, but has to do a job every day that sometimes licks him or a job that knocks him down. Billy said, funny solemn:

"If I would get knocked down, I know what to do. I would get up."

I'm Telling You...

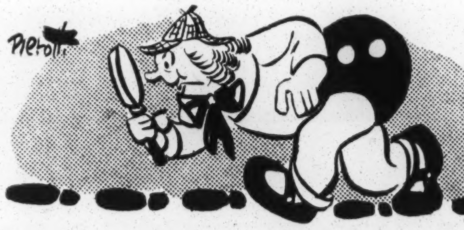
Before continuing with a few living, breathing reports about the Big Fight, I would like to ask one question. Is Branch Rickey planning to put Jackie Robinson into a Dodger uniform, thereby diverting the minds of honest Brooklyn fans from that awful sale of Billy Herman? I'm just asking.

* * *

Only the late President Roosevelt's voice ever reached more Americans that that of Don Dunphy, the calm, native New Yorker who told 60,000,000 radio listeners about the last Louis-Conn fight and will do it again tomorrow night. Dunphy does not effect the hypochondrial throat mufflers, pills, smoked glasses and other props, which mark vocal inmates of the Marconi zoo. His only preparation will be to "eat a lighter dinner than usual."

* * *

Now that those wonderful refugees from *reality*—the fight camps at Greenwood Lake and Pompton Lakes—are wound up for the time being, mention might be made of a few persons who could have been met there and a conversation struck up with all by itself.



There were Joe Louis' two bodyguards, both detectives. One is George Weber, New York, and the other is Alvin Fauntleroy, Chicago. If a person is old enough to remember the novels of years ago, it seems a wee bit odd to have Detective Fauntleroy guarding the heavyweight champion of the world.

Then there was a very quiet, good-looking man who came around to look things over. He turned out to be Ramsey Farley, 67-year-old marine engineer, San Francisco. There is in this country a group of men, getting on in years, who have worked hard enough to be able to do what they please and this group includes many who make a point of being around when a heavyweight championship fight looms up. He didn't make any big fuss about it, being a quiet man, but Farley said that he had come from San Francisco to have a look at the goings-on, at the camps, the town of New York, and up at the Stadium next Wednesday night.

* * *

There was Captain Lou Prim, one of Joe Louis' captains in the Army. He is a big fellow, who looks like at least a captain, even without the uniform and in civvies. He had a job keeping an eye on things around the camp, and he worked evenly at it and did it well.

Then there was a man who told a good thing about Joe Louis when Joe Louis was in the Army.

This fellow said he got to know Louis and talked to him a lot about this and that. Well, one of those always with Louis then, and now one of his trainers, is George Nicholson, who was Louis' sparring partner for years. That is, stood in there and took a lot of thumping when Louis had to thump somebody to get ready for a bout.

Louis was talking about this and that one time in the Army and he said: "You know, I'd like it a lot if you treat George as good as you can. I'd like it a lot. I didn't do him any good, hitting him all those times."

* * *

As nice a sight as a person would want to see came by up at Louis' camp in Pompton Lakes the other afternoon before Louis started his practice session.

While people were lazing around, waiting for the sparring, a great, tall Negro came by, with a handsome little white boy on his shoulders, his legs around the big fellow's neck. The boy was having a hell of a ride around in the sunshine, and the tall man kept saying to him:

"Don't muss up my nice curly hair, now. Hear me? Don't you muss it up."

They were near enough, that moment, to hear the little boy answer, "No, I won't, Al. No, I won't, Al." He called him by his first name.

The tall fellow was Al Hoosman, who is one of Joe Louis' sparring partners, and a very good prize fighter, too.

"That boy's father is Bob Brown," Hoosman said a few minutes later, when he had let the child down on the ground. "That boy's father lost an arm with the paratroopers."

"How old is he, the kid?"

"He's 3½," Hoosman said. "We just bumped into each other around here and we hit it off. We hang around together. His name is Bobby Brown, Jr. Hey, Bobby!"

Hoosman did very well poking left jabs at Louis about a half hour later. Hoosman could lick most fighters. He comes from Idaho. But they announce him like this:

"Next sparring partner for the champion is Al Hoosman, of Los Angeles."

"I came from Idaho, but I fight out of Los Angeles," Hoosman explained later.

—SWIFTY

Conn in Better Shape Than Louis, Boxing Commission Doctors Aver

Challenger's Reactions After a Strenuous Drill Amaze Walker, Nardiello—Dempsey Picks Champion to Win by Knockout

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Special to THE

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 13—Measured by the physician's stethoscope and blood pressure apparatus, Billy Conn, Pittsburgh's challenger for the world heavyweight title, is in better condition than Joe Louis, the Detroit Bomber, who will make his twenty-second defense of the crown on Wednesday night in the Yankee Stadium.

This professional opinion went on the record today when Dr. William H. Walker and Dr. Vincent Nardiello of the State Athletic Commission's medical staff examined Conn under direction of Chairman Eddie Eagan. They found the challenger in perfect con-

dition, mentally and physically and expressed amazement at Conn's reactions to tests conducted before and after a spirited workout.

Before the drill started Conn's blood pressure was 130 over 88, his pulse 60; his heart was sound, he had good muscular quality, his knee reflexes were hyperactive, his other reflexes were within the normal limits and the condition of his skin was normal.

Reflexes Remain Sharp

Following the workout, in which Conn sparred savagely against Mickey McAvoy, Jimmy Smith and Mike Belluscio for two rounds apiece, the challenger's pulse was found to be 90, settling quickly to 70 in a normal ten minutes and his blood pressure was 126 over 80, lower than it had been before. There was dimination in the sharpness of his reflexes.

The unusual part of this examination by two physicians was the condition of Conn's blood pressure. The fact that it went down after the workout, whereas Louis' had risen abnormally, reflected more than anything else the superb condition of the challenger.

"He showed me one of the most remarkable things I have ever seen in the years I have been examining fighters," said Dr. Walker. "After all that exercise his pulse went up only to 90 and came down in normal time. What is more, Conn's blood pressure went down, while Louis's rose to an abnormal margin when we examined him the other day."

Dr. Nardiello said "The sympathetic nervous system that controls the blood pressure is simply marvelous in Conn. I am not concerned with his fighting capabilities, but, as a physical specimen, he is in much better shape than Louis was the other day. He reminds me of Max Baer in training at Atlantic City for the fight in which he knocked out Max Schmeling. His nerves are as steady as Baer's, and nothing ever bothered Max."

During the sparring Conn tore into McAvoy's ample midsection at close quarters and smashed a left hook to the face that brought a swelling under McAvoy's right eye. Billy exploded again in two rounds against Smith and had his partner groggy on several occasions after wicked smashes to the jaw or ripping lefts to the body. A left hook to the jaw shook Belluscio near the end of the first round and in the second Conn pounded his body savagely with both hands.

Still, the boxing experts noted flows in Conn's style. They say he still is carrying his left too low and that he "telegraphs" his left hook for the body or head by drawing his arm back too far.

Jack Dempsey, who attended the workout with his old friend, Billy Taub, was impressed with the speed, shiftiness and sharp punching of Conn. Eagan likewise expressed satisfaction with the exhibition of fighting form he had witnessed, as did James J. Braddock, the man from whom Louis won the title. Braddock expects Conn to outpoint the champion.

Too Easy to Hit Says Olin

Bob Olin, former light-heavyweight star, pointed out that Conn is easy to hit, too easy for a puncher of Louis' type, and predicted the champion would win by a knockout in eight rounds. The consensus among observers was that Louis must score a knockout to win; that Conn must retain and maintain his speed of foot and fist to win.

Motoring the few miles from Conn's quarters at Ted Gleason's to Louis' camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J., Dempsey saw the champion in a spirited seven-round workout against five sparring partners, and, basing his forecast on the premise that Louis must catch up with Conn, predicted victory by a knockout for the champion.

George Haywood, a light-heavyweight from New York, was added to Louis' sparring staff today, obviously because of his fast and shifty style. Others against whom Louis followed the familiar plodding, shuffling style in which he seemed to be seeking a solution to perplexing jabs, were Perk Daniels, one round; Al Hoosman, two rounds; Jimmy Bell, one round and George Fitch, two rounds.

Dr. Clarence Hogans, personal physician to the titleholder, took issue with the interpretation of Louis' blood pressure reading by Dr. Nardiello following last Tuesday's examination. He said that strenuous exercise and altitude affects the normal pressure and declared Louis to be in absolutely good physical condition.

Neither champion nor challenger will work tomorrow. Louis plans to close the long training siege with drills on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Conn will work Saturday and Sunday and is undecided on a session Monday.

LOUIS CONFIDENT OF EARLY VICTORY

Speeds Up Attack in 7-Round Drill for Title Bout as Crowd of 3,500 Watches

RUSHING TACTICS STRESSED

Expects to Scale Down to 208—Conn Pummels Mates in Display of Hard Hitting

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 16—Despite his earlier protestations to the contrary, Joe Louis is going into the ring at the Yankee Stadium Wednesday night to make a bid for a quick knockout victory over Billy Conn, his challenger, in the Brown Bomber's twenty-second defense of the title he won back in 1937, his first ring assignment since both he and Conn returned to civilian life.

No other interpretation can be placed on two developments in the titleholder's camp, where, before the largest crowd ever to see him in training, about 3,500 admirers, he went through a seven-round sparring drill against five of his camp mates.

In a pre-workout drill one of the questions fired at Louis was: "Joe, these fellows who are paying $100 for a seat; are they going to get a long, leisurely look or just a quick peek?"

Short Count for Ringsiders

And Louis replied without hesitation:

"As far as I'm concerned, all they'll get is a ten-second count."

Early in the morning, Gracie Allen, comedienne, was a visitor to camp and closed an extensive visit with the declaration:

"Well, so long, Joe. I'll be seeing a lot of you at the fight Wednesday night."

"No, you won't," was Louis' quick rejoinder. "I don't want you to see a lot of me then. I don't expect to be out there very long."

And, in his workout, one of the most impressive of the long preparatory campaign which will reach its end with tomorrow's drill, Louis flashed exactly the style of fighting he hopes will bring him a quick knockout victory.

The champion, shuffling forward, pressing in steadily in familiar style, forced Perk Daniels, Al Hoosman, George Haywood, Jimmy Bell and George Fitch steadily before him, backing them to the ropes, forcing them into neutral corners, coming in against left jabs, picking off or blocking left hooks, swaying away from rights or going in under the blows, plotting and planning, apparently, against the situations he expects to encounter when he squares off against the fleet-footed, agile Conn.

hrows Few Head Punches

Louis threw few punches. This could be because, with the fight but three days off, he didn't want to expose his hands to injury, or because he saw the openings he thought he might induce with his fighting style against Conn. He cut loose against the annoying jabs of Hoosman in retreat iwth several solid left hooks to the head, punched Hoosman's liver with a right in close, and, after swallowing many of Hoosman's straight lefts in the second round grazed the jaw with several left hoooks and short rights.

He flashed speed against Haywood, the man who has been engaged for his speed. After toying with Haywood for two minutes, stabbing lefts that brought blood from the nose, Louis suddenly turned speedy in the last minute and was faster than his sparmate. Against Bell, Louis uncorked his combination one-two punch, a left hook to the body and a right to the head in flashes when Bell presented openings.

That his mental attitude is all right Louis indicated before and during the workout. A section of fans voiced noisy objections to the way a group of photographers balcked out one side of the ring, in a storm that would ordinarily draw some caution from Louis.

Speaks for Eager Boys

Today, however, Louis went right on sparring, unmindful of the noise while the situation adjusted itself. In his last round, against Fitch, two tots were sitting on the apron of the ring in a neutral corner. They could not see otherwise, because the crowd jammed the small workout area, overflowed onto near-by rooftops, hung from branches of trees overlooking the ring, and clung precariously to the rock remains of an old hill.

Trainer Mannie Seamon sought to chase the children, fearful Louis or a sparmate would trample them in a sudden ring movement. Louis turned aside from his sparring, maneuvered near Seamon and yelled, "No. They're all right. Leave them there."

Scotty Montieth, veteran handler of fighters who is best remembered for his development of Johnny Dundee as world featherweight champion, expressed amazement at Louis' condition following his first look at the champion since he went of to war. Montieth flew in from Detroit in the morning and had come from a view of Conn's training.

"His condition is wonderful," said Scotty. "He looks marvelous I didn't think it possible for a fellow to get into such shape after being out of action four years. I think he'll knock out Conn."

The seven rounds by Louis today boosted to 140 the number he has sparred in this training siege. He weighed 211 pounds, he said, adding he expects to weigh 208 against Conn.

Challenger Works 6 Rounds

With his father, his physician, Dr. Harry L. Goehring, and Mayor David L. Lawrence of Pittsburgh in a gathering of 800 fans, Conn went through a sparkling workout of six rounds against four sparmates at his Greenwood Lake, N. J., camp, and appeared impressive against Mickey McAvoy, Frank Poreda, Jimmy Smith and Mike Belluscio.

He rocked under a right hand drive to the jaw by Poreda and, forthwith a session in which he planned to work mostly for speed became a slugging outburst in which Conn hammered the New Jerseyite with both hands in savage drives to the head and body.

Conn exhibited his left hook three times in the round he sparred with Smith, reaching the jaw with staggering force so that the round had to be cut short. "Time" was not called, however, until one left hook bruised Smith's nose. Belluscio reached the challenger's jaw with over-hand rights, only to repent as Conn turned vicious and pummeled his opponent.

Manager Johnny Ray said Conn has abandoned plans for a brief workout Tuesday and will conclude training with tomorrow's drill. The pilot said he is considering requesting the State Athletic Commission to permit Conn to remain in his dressing room while introductions are being made from the ring before the championship battle starts. This move would be calculated to protect Conn against cooling off before the battle starts. Customarily Conn shadow boxes three or four rounds in his dressing room before a bout, a procedure the challenger plans to follow Wednesday night in any event.

BILLY CONFIDENT

Conn Talks Of Title Defense

By DAVIS J. WALSH.

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 10—(INS)—The inevitable swing-back of sentiment—away from a semi-old champion toward a semi-young challenger—was reflected in one respect today when two carloads of journalists rode 50 miles into the Jersey hinterland just to sit around with Billy Conn.

One item of discussion was the fact that ex-Welterweight Champion Barney Ross added his voice to the views of ex-Heavyweight Champion James J. Braddock over the weekend in speaking dubiously of Joe Louis' age. Another had to do with the statement by a Broadway price-maker that he would take any Louis money up to $125,000 at odds of 12½ to 5.

These odds were shorter than any the betting set had been talkingabout, up to now. But the man indicated that Conn money, out of Western Pennsylvania, might drive the price down below 2-1 as the $3,000,000 heavyweight championship fight—now only nine days off—draws near.

The journalists, however, were preoccupied with Conn himself as they sat in the bleachers overlooking his outdoor ring and listened to him beat Louis—with rhetoric.

He perhaps said very little that was new, but in repetition there came added belief in this man who so clearly believes in himself. So great, in fact, is the faith Conn reposes in his destiny, he even discussed with becoming gravity his plans for defending a title he feels so certain is soon to be his.

The visiting intelligentsia, assembled from as far to the north as Boston and as far west as Des Moines, nodded soberly as these tidings were conveyed, seeming to find nothing amiss in conn's assumption that Louis' plus-32 years would bear more heavily upon him than would Conn's minus-29.

Said Conn, brightly and with complete assurance:

"They (the years) will start dragging him down by the beltline along about the tenth round."

Quickly, in answer to a question, he said, no, he wasn't going to try for a knockout. Unsmilingly he added that he "made that mistake the last time." Then, as though reconsidering, the challenger went on to say he'd have to see Louis on the floor-boards first before concluding he'd hurt the guy.

It was, all in all, a remarkably confident challenger—in keeping with the trend of current sentiment—who held a news levee on his day off. And if there was anything wrong with what he said or did or indicated, it came with the furtive notion that any gent as confident as this party might compound a "felony" by repeating his blunder of 1941.

For, no matter what he says in public, people who know Conn very well also know that what he'd really like to do, more than anything in life, is stretch Louis like a prayer rug.

In this corner

At Pompton Lakes With Joe Louis

By Bill Mardo

There were a handful of us in that last car leaving from Mike Jacobs' office for the champ's camp at Pompton Lakes. In the sleek hired wan were Jimmy Cannon, Frank Graham, the UP's Sid Fedor, Lew Burston and myself—and the hour-long ride was pleasant and airy with conversation running the gamut from somebody's fond recollection of the beer bout staged in Churchill Downs after the Darby, to tales of France and Germany exquisitely told by Cannon.

But beneath it all there was an impatient excitement. This was like old times; it's been a long time since Joe Louis pitched a training camp. A lot of blood, sweat and tears has flowed under the proverbial bridge.

Then, before you had time to say thanks to that kid on the bike who told the driver where to turn off left, we were parking the car just a few feet away from the jam-packed wooden stands where some 700 people were seated and waiting for Louis to come on out. We walked into the building that houses the indoor gym, now forsaken because of the hot weather. Through a narrow corridor into a small-sized room, and there, seated on a rubbing table, was the world's heavyweight champion. Louis looked terrific as he amiably greeted the scribes. The skin was drawn tightly over his features and his jaw-line was sharp. His shoulders all but burst through the white short-sleeved jersey he wore, and the biceps rippled and arched as if drawn by a sculptor as Joe shook hands all around.

The writers formed a semi-circle in front of him and the conversation soon steered to baseball, and Joe's face sparkled with animation as he easily traded gags with the newspapermen.

Talk got around to that softball team Joe organized years back. Somebody recollected that whenever the champ came back from a road-trip with his team he'd always rave about everyone's batting average but his own. "How much did you hit, Joe, .132?" Louis put his hand on the questioner's knee and chuckled. "Put an ought in front of that. Make it .1032, or better yet, just .013," and the tiny room almost caved in with the general laughter.

Another writer asked Joe if he'd seen his favorite Detroit Tigers yet. "No, but I see where they got messed up in a triple-play the other day."

The newsman jibed teasingly: "That's what they get for playing against a clever club like the Yankees."

The great Negro champion looked at the writer a moment, the lines around his mouth slowly shaping into an impish smile. "Smart club like the Yankees. H'm. Seems like I remember them waving their bats at Bobby Feller couple weeks back." And here Joe jumped off the table and roared with laughter as he enacted the scene he had witnessed at the Stadium when Feller twirled his memorable no-hitter. "Those Yankees, they just stood at the plate and waved at the ball going by. All day long they just waved goodbye at those pitches. Feller never had so many people waving at his stuff in all his life."

But the Yankee fan persisted. "Feller's all washed-up, Joe." Louis chuckled: "Yeah he's all through. I see where he beat the Yankees with five hits the other day."

Joe was informed that Mushky Jackson has a new heavyweight whom he's keeping under wraps. Louis looked up. "Yeah, what's his name, Mike Jacobs?"

And so it went. A delightful 20 minutes until trainer Manny Seamon stuck his head into the door and said, "Let's go, Joe." The champ hopped off the table and everyone followed him outside where the spectators, many of them Negro GI's, gave him a big ovation as he climbed into the outdoor ring. Joe shadow-boxed loosely under the hot sun for five minutes and then went over to a corner of the ring where Seamon put on his gloves, greased his face, and pulled the headguard down over Joe's ears.

"The champ will first spar two rounds with Al Hoosman," blared the announcer. Hoosman is the slim, elongated heavyweight who licked Lee Savold, and the long-legged ex-GI owns an extremely talented left hand. He used it to good advantage, flicking and hooking to Louis' face as Joe just stalked after him without throwing any punches. Louis seemed more concerned with trying to get inside of the dancing Hoosman than in throwing any long range blows. Louis didn't seem at all concerned about the many lefts that he was catching in the face, and just bore in steadily, following Al around the ring until trainer Seamon called "Time."

The second round was the best session of the afternoon. Speedy, shifty and clever, using much of the same tactics that Conn will employ, the lithe Hoosman circled to Joe's left and kept flicking away at the champ. But this time Joe was catching many of the blows in the mitt of his big right glove, and he was slipping away from others with a slight nod of his head. Al danced around the champ and suddenly ripped home a beautiful left to the belly and right to the jaw. Louis unloosed a ferocious right that missed by inches and the momentum behind the blow whirled Joe into the ropes. A loud "oooooh" echoed through the trees, and folks tried not to think of what would've happened had the punch landed. The champ was opening up just slightly now, and he moved inside of the elusive Hoosman to belt away with short chops to his sparmate's wire-thin waist. Al finally got away from the champ as the round ended.

Louis then went two rounds apiece with shifty Perk Daniels and George Fitch, the big Negro heavy from New Haven. Nothing untoward occurred, and Joe was content to follow his sparring partners around the ring, occasionally tossing a few long blows. The champ wasn't too impressive; he caught too many lefts to the face, and didn't seem very spirited. But Louis is still three and one-half weeks away from his title defense, and it's a known fact that he's a past master at the art of pacing himself during training so that he comes into the ring, razor-sharp the night of a fight.

While Joe admitted later he's about "25 percent slower" compared to his peak-days, it's still far too soon to form any opinions about the overall fight equipment he now has at the age of 32. Such inventory will have to be taken about a half-month from now, by which time it'll be easier to assess how much of his old-time timing and split-second reactions are still with him. His punch, of course, is something he'll never lose. And doesn't that make Mister Conn happy!

Jolting Joe's Famous Fights

By CHES WASHINGTON

After battering Two-Ton Tony Galento into a helpless hunk of humanity in four rounds on June 28, 1939, Joe Louis next knocked out Bicycle Bob Pastor in eleven rounds, won from Arturo Godoy in fifteen, cashed in on Johnny Paycheck in two abbreviated rounds and then started drilling for a return fight with Godoy set for June 20, 1940.

This was to be Joe's eleventh defense of his heavyweight championship and another one of those times when Louis was called upon to meet the same fighter twice, to see whether he could do it again... but quicker.

GODOY A TOUGH CUSTOMER

Built as solid as a dreadnaught, Godoy had never before been knocked off his feet in sixty-seven fights. Among his victims was bragging, beer-bloated Tony Galento, whom he had beaten twice.

In the opening round Louis came out swinging at the Chilean in the South American way. And Joe really had that swing that night. Before Godoy could convert into his famous turtle-like crouch, Joe had nailed him with a lightning-like right which started blood flowing from his face. Then came another vicious right . . . and Arturo's head came up like a rubber ball bounding on a cement sidewalk.

From that point on Godoy went into his famous crouch. Joe had to bend forward and direct body blows at his foe from a bent-over the sixth they fought, head to head, with Louis shooting power punches to the South American's ribs, kidneys or any other portion of the midsection which happened to be exposed.

Came the seventh and Joe straightened Godoy up with a mighty hook. Again Godoy came charging in. Instead of backing up, Joe moved in and shot a potent right to the chin. Arturo wobbled. Joe closed in and started shooting five in, dynamic power punches. A right dropped Godoy to the floor. He took the count of 6.

In the eighth a dazed Godoy charged again like a maddened bull. And again Joe figured that Arturo was asking for it.

Louis dressed him up for the kill with a couple of jarring lefts. And then came that right. Godoy dropped like the Flatiron Building had fallen on him. He stumbled to his feet at the count of eight. And again that right flashed. Arturo was felled again for "keeps" like a bull butchered on the Pampas.

And Joe was still the champion cowpunches of the world's fistic ranges.

Louis Slams Spar Mates Freely

His Doctor Says Champ Is Ready

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 13—(AP)—Both Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis and his personal physician, Dr. Clarence Hogans, gave the opposition a tough going-over before a large and distinguished audience here today.

Joe slammed five sparring mates freely and looked good doing it. The improvement over his form of two days ago was so marked that it couldn't be missed. There were only a few dissenting votes.

While Joe was punishing his partners, Dr. Hogans took a few verbal pokes at Dr. Vincent Nardiello, the boxing commission saw bones who said after Tuesday's workout that the champion's blood pressure was jumping around like a mountain goat.

"I can honestly say that Louis is physically fit, and that throughout the entire training period I never obtained the blood pressure reading that Dr. Nardiello says he got after Tuesday's workout," Hogans declared in a formal statement.

He added that it was well known that strenuous exercise and altitude can make anyone's blood pressure hop about, and that "any physician at all" knows that the pressure varies from time to time in any given individual.

Certainly the crowd, which included former Heavyweight Champions Jack Dempsey and Jim Braddock, could detect little wrong with the big Negro's condition today, though both Jim and Jack seemed to think he looked a trifle on the slow side toward the end of the seven rounds of boxing.

Braddock picked Conn to win some time ago, but Dempsey hasn't yet named his choice.

There isn't much doubt that Louis looks slow in comparison with Conn, but what some of the observers appear to overlook is that the two men have sparring partners of vastly different caliber. Conn is boxing preliminary boys while Louis is working himself into condition against such crack main eventers as Al Hoosman and Jimmy Bell.

It is plain, in other words, that Joe was just talking when he said he was training to go 15 rounds and to outbox Conn, if necessary. He is getting ready to try to tag Billy before the sixth round, if possible, because he knows he will be deep in enemy territory if it goes longer than that.

This Morning

With Shirley Povich

Washington Post, D.C.

To Whom It May Concern

New York, June 15.—A day after he visited Joe Louis' camp and picked Louis to stiffen Billy Conn inside of five rounds, Mickey Walker arrived at Conn's camp and announced he had changed his mind. He was now picking Conn to win . . . One of Louis' handlers reading Walker's latest prediction, commented "They ought to award that Walker the double cross, with four clusters" . . . Louis is expected to object if Eddie Joseph's name is submitted as one of the possible referees Wednesday night. Joseph refereed the last Louis-Conn fight, and had scored Conn in front, seven rounds to five, before Louis knocked him out. The champion doesn't agree he was outpointed before the knockout . . . "Conn is just a street fighter," declared one observer. "I can't see him beating Louis unless they pave the ring with cobblestones at Yankee Stadium on Wednesday night. Then I'd like Conn" . . . The deputy collector of internal revenue has been at Conn's camp for the past two days, making arrangements with the challenger to to turn over more than $30,000 of his purse for back taxes . . . If Conn's end of the gate receipts amounts to $500,000, taxes will take all except approximately $90,000 . . . The only time Louis has displayed any surliness in training was when the examining physician said his reflexes were sluggish. The next day two of his sparring partners took such a beating they threatened to quit.

POVICH

Jun 6 16-46

The latest report is that Steve O'Neill may finish out the season as manager of the Tigers, but that Jimmy Dykes will move in before the start of the 1947 season . . . After reports of dissension on the Tigers, O'Neill called a meeting of the team in Philadelphia and told his players, "If there's anything wrong, don't be talking behind my back. Let me know what goes" . . . One Detroit player suggested that the entire team sign a statement testifying to wholehearted support of O'Neill, but the proposal was not adopted . . . The Athletics and the Indians have barred their dressing rooms to visitors and newspapermen following the same decision by the Pirates, who want to keep union organizers out . . . Organized baseball, particularly the American League, should be ashamed of its treatment of Pitcher Jack Knott, who was promoted from sergeant to second lieutenant and then to first lieutenant for heroism while in combat with the 104th Infantry Division in France and Germany. He is now carrying shrapnel and a release from the Athletics, and is jobless . . . Second Baseman Joe Gordon of the Yankees can be had by the club willing to give up a pitcher or a first baseman.

The National Football League knows there's war on against the new All-America Conference for player contracts, and that it is costly. Alexis Thompson, owner of the Philadelphia Eagles, points out that in 1944 his player payroll was $74,000, that in 1945 player salaries totaled $124,000, and that his payroll budget for this year is $170,000 . . . Steve Bagarus doesn't want to play with the Redskins, but he owes the club $1800 in salary advances . . . The Danny Kapilow-Aaron Perry fight in Washington on Monday night ought to be a beaut, even at those prices . . . Wonder if Buck Newsom's contract with the Washington Club contains the same clause he had in his contract with the Athletics, wherein the A's paid the expenses of Mrs. Newsom on all of the road trips? . . . Despite prediction that the odds against Billy Conn would go to 3 and 3½ to 1 by Wednesday night, they are still holding the line at 12 to 5 . . . The recent tennis series between Don Budge and Bobby Riggs was so much on the level that they were betting each other, and not for peanuts. Budge won the series, 24 matches to 21 . . . The gin rummy sessions at Billy Conn's camp have been more exciting than Conn's sparring sessions, and the other day the challenger took $112 from his manager, Ray Carlen, leaving him temporarily without tipping money.

The late Jack Johnson used to deny that he took a dive to Jess Willard in their title bout at Havana in 1915 when he was counted out in the twenty-sixth round. "That's carrying a fix too far, don't you think?" he used to say . . . The Nats, who have drawn 457,475 in their first 31 home games of the season, will draw a million fans at their present pace. A few years ago, the St. Louis Browns' home attendance for a full season was only 87,000 . . . in a poll taken among Belmont Park race fans, 32 per cent voted to eliminate jumping races, 47 per cent liked the status quo and 19 per cent wanted more jumping events.

Jun 6.16-46

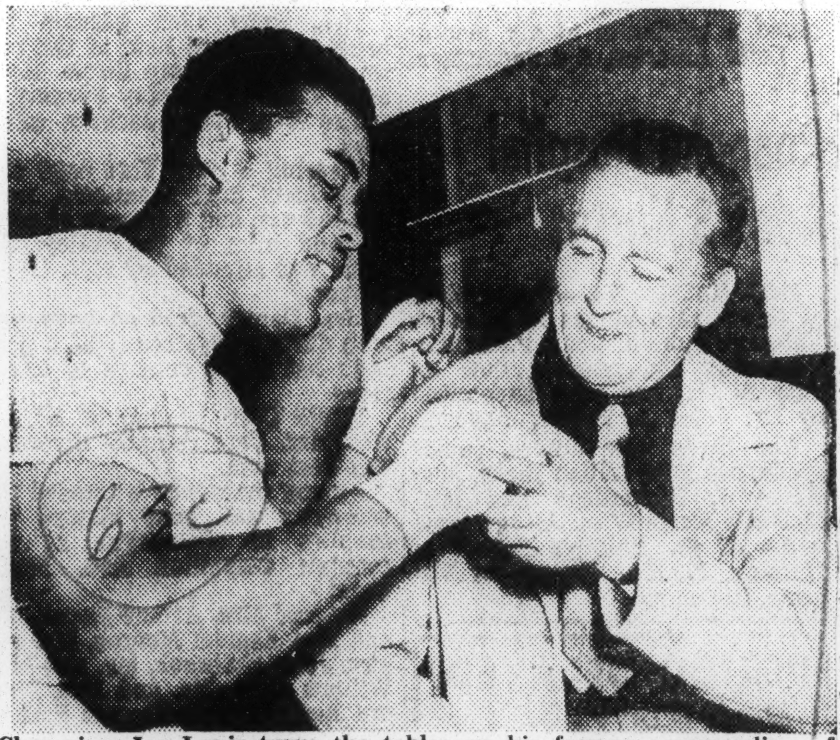
Baseball Commissioner Happy Chandler's announcement that he would hew strictly to the rules of organized baseball except when he had to judge conduct detrimental to the game is not in the Landis tradition. Landis delighted in making his own rulings whenever he judged them in the best interest of baseball. . . . Joe Cronin's new managerial contract with the Red Sox is said to call for a $40,000 salary, but he may not be the highest paid manager in baseball. With bonuses based on attendance, Leo Durocher, of the Dodgers, could earn more than $40,000 this year. Last year he drew $55,000 . . . The most unsurprising prediction on the outcome of the Joe Louis-Billy Conn fight was delivered yesterday when Louis was picked to win by, of all people, his mother.

Most Heavyweight Champs Beaten After Passing Age of 30; Is That Bad for Joe?

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

Ex-CO Now Joe's Drummer



Champion Joe Louis turns the tables on his former commanding officer when he takes on ex-Captain Lou Krem, right, as his public relations man and adviser. In other words, Krem now beats the drum for his former enlisted man.

POMPTON LAKES, N.J.—Joe Louis had a birthday last Monday. He is now 32 years old.

This fact immediately gave rise to speculation as to whether or not the Bomber can stand off the Father Time jinx when he meets Billy Conn in the heavyweight title match at Yankee Stadium, New York, come June 19.

Newspapermen and old time ring addicts hereabout spent the better part of Joe's birthday hanging their heads in retrospect and deploring the fact that Louis, whom they all like, must be served up to the destiny which beckoned all, or mostly all, of his predecessors.

5-25-46

First one and then another of the large retinue of scribblers lolling about the elaborate press quarters that have been set up here, recalled the fate of guys who, like the Bomber, sought to defend their belts after they had passed their 30th milestone.

It was cited how John L. (The Great) Sullivan was 34 when he dropped his crown to Jim Corbett; it was remembered Corbett was 31 when he was thrashed by Bob Fitzsimmons; that Fitzsimmons was 37 when he bowed to Jim Jeffries.

Some of the younger bloods then chimed in with their two cents' worth concerning Jack Johnson's being 37 when he was stopped by Jess Willard, and the latter's having passed his 36th year on the day he was made a shambles by Jack Dempsey.

That these fellows seem to miss is the fact that Sullivan was eight years the senior of Corbett when the latter drubbed him; that Fitzsimmons was given away 13 years to 24-year-old Jeffries in their championship match, and Willard was 12 years older than Dempsey that day in Toledo.

Conn Near 29

Joe, at 32, will be meeting a man much nearer his age for when he steps into the ring against the Bomber, Billy will be just three months away from his 29th birthday.

And if this isn't enough, perhaps it might be well to point out that the Father Time jinx didn't stand up when Corbett dropped his crown. For, while a whole lot is said about Gentleman Jim's being 31, little attention is paid to the fact that the man who beat him for his title was 35 when he did it.

So, I haven't convinced you, yet, eh, that there's nothing to worry about, at least on the beard-and-whiskers score? Well, keep reading.

5-25-46

Louis has been an active champion. He has kept busy with 21 title defenses, which is in severe contrast to the behavior of all these other fellows mentioned above. That they should be regarded in the same breath with the present titleholder is a sour shame.

"The Great" John L., for example, after winning the crown in 1882, fought only one title battle in the 10 years that elapsed between acquiring the crown and losing it to Corbett.

Corbett, likewise, put the belt on the shelf after getting his gloves on it. He fought once between 1892 and 1897, when he bowed to Fitz. And that one "fight" was against Charley Mitchell, a 158-pound middleweight.

Fitzsimmons met nobody from the time he whipped Corbett in 1897 to the match in which he lost his crown to Jeffries two years later. Willard, after deposing Johnson in 1915, rushed into a closet where he remained until he was inveigled into the ring with Dempsey four years later. Jess met only one man, Frank Moran, that being a no-decision bout in which Willard was 22 pounds heavier than the Welshman.

The Bomber has engaged in 57 bouts in his pro career, has met anyone who came along his primrose path. There is no telling how many more times he might have gone to the post had not Uncle Sam felt the need of getting into the war.

He has been inactive since 1942, it's true. But so has Conn. And Joe has done more than 2,000 rounds of the best kind of competitive boxing available to him under the circumstances.

He's past his peak, perhaps, but he certainly shouldn't be mentioned in the same breath with his predecessors. Joe has kept going, they didn't.

And even iron rusts with idleness.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 98

Tintype of The Champ

Daily Worker

Joe Louis—ex-GI—is going back to work in the postwar world as the heavyweight champion. After a layoff of more than four years, Louis engages in his 22nd defense of his world championship when he faces Billy Conn of Pittsburgh in the Yankee Stadium, June 19.

No one could conceive a more humble beginning in life than that of Joseph Louis Barrow, who first saw the light of day on May 13, 1914, in a crowded, ramshackle cabin in the cotton fields near Lafayette, Alabama, the eighth child of poverty-stricken Munn and Lily Barrow. *Sat. 6-15-46*

During his 'teen-age days, he worked on a $5-per-day basis as a laborer in the River Rouge plant of the Ford Motor Company in Detroit. *New York*

As an amateur Joe won the National A.A.U. light-heavyweight title in St. Louis in April, 1934.

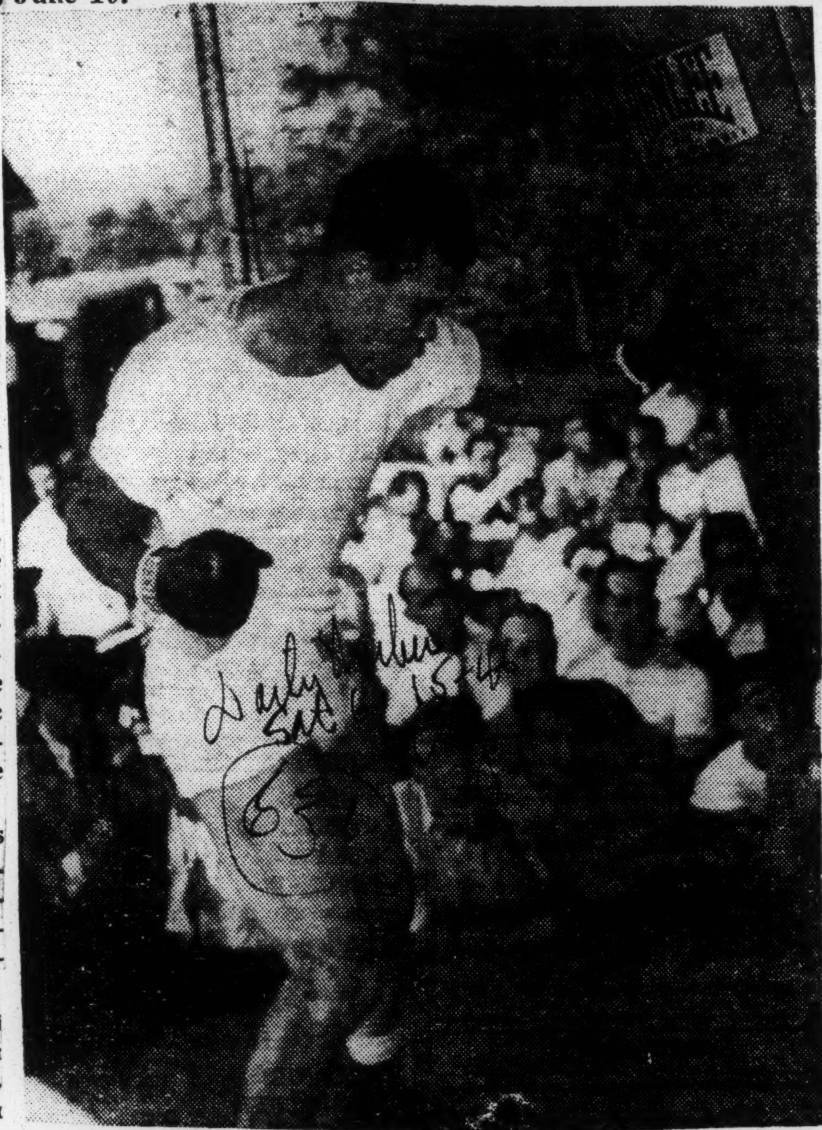
Three months later, on July 4, 1934, he made his entry into the professional ranks, flattening Jack Kracken in one round at Chicago.

In less than one year of professional competition he reached the Big Time by battering the gigantic bulk of Primo Carnera into submission in six rounds at the Yankee Stadium. *Sat 6-15-46*

And in June 1937, three years after his professional debut, he became the ruler of the world heavyweights by knocking out Jim Braddock in the eighth round at Comiskey Field, Chicago.

No heavyweight in the long and colorful annals of the ring ever dominated his field so completely as Louis. And no champion ever risked his laurels so often.

The only defeat Louis has suffered as a professional—that stunning upset registered by Schmeling—was completely wiped out in their return match when a thoroughly aroused Louis chalked up one of the quickest and most decisive triumphs in heavyweight history.



Ray to Limit Conn's Boxing; Billy on 'Edge'

Times Dispatch, Richmond Va. Monday 6-10-46

GREENWOOD LAKE, June 9—(AP)—Billy Conn added eight more rounds of boxing to his vast total today and looked so sharp in the process that his manager, Johnny Ray, announced the Pittsburgh challenger would lay off tomorrow to avoid any possibility of going stale.

"He's in great shape right now. What I've got to do from here on is keep him that way. I'll decide from day to day how much boxing Billy will do," said the little fellow who has guided Conn throughout his fistic career.

Conn Goes 8 Rounds

A Sunday crowd of some 300 watched Conn step two fast rounds each with fat Mickey McAvoy, Frank Poreda, Mickey Belluscio and Jimmy Smith. Of the quartet, Poreda, a promising young heavyweight, gave Billy the toughest workout, nailing him with several scorching rights to the head.

Throughout the session, which extended his rounds of boxing here to 23, Conn bounced around and stabbed with his left and threw occasional left hooks, a preview of his obvious plan of battle against Joe Louis, a week from Wednesday. Once he shook Smith with a hard right, but fr the most part it was his left, his most reliable weapon, that did the work.

What Conn appears to need right now more than anything else is a new set of sparring partners. The ones he has are getting badly shopworn. Ray has been trying for several days to import several boys of the aggressive type who will carry the fight to Conn, but admitted today he was having no luck. *6-10-46*

"We asked Joe Baski to work with Billy this coming Tuesday and he said okay, that he would come up, but I've changed my mind about it," Ray said. "Baski's a big fellow who uses a lot of elbows, and I don't want to take a chance of Billy breaking a thumb on him." *Monday*

Conn on Menta Edge

With nine days remaining before he makes his second try at the heavyweight title, Conn plainly is approaching a keen edge mentally as well as psyically.

Today, while he was talking with newsmen, another fighter who is training at his camp here began beating a loud tattoo on a punching bag just outside the challenger's dressing room. After about the first 10 licks, Billy snarled: *Richmond Va*

"Tell that guy to lay off that bag quick. He's always beating that bag. Runs a man nuts."

An aide hurried outside, and the punching ceased abruptly.

Louis' Right, Hurt Weeks Ago, Has Recovered—Pilot

New York, June 10 (U.P.)—Marshall Miles, the shy little man who manages Joe Louis, announced cheerfully tonight that the heavyweight champion will begin throwing his right hand in prewar fashion this week. *Mes. 6-11-46*

Miles disclosed for the first time that Louis has been handicapped since his second week in training by severe muscle bruises on the inside right forearm, near the elbow. The bruises, suffered in blocking a left hook to the body, were slow in responding to treatment. *Washington D.C.*

Brown-skinned Miles, the 40-year-old proprietor of hotels and apartments in Los Angeles and Buffalo, N. Y., chuckled and said, "A New York newspaperman wrote a story last week about Joe having an injured right hand. We denied the story immediately and had picures taken to show that the right ist was okay. The sports writer never knew how close he came to he truth."

Only Special Delivery Requests for Louis-Conn Pullman Tickets Accepted

Call Kansas City Mo.

A special delivery letter to Charles E. Bledsoe, 524 Kansas Ave., Topeka, Kas., if sent immediately, will still be in time to make reservations for the Pullman-excursion tour to the Joe Louis-Billy Conn fight in Madison Square Gardens. *6-14-46*

Send the full name and address of the person for whom the reservation is to be made and tell whether that person intends to go and return with the tour, or take advantage of the 90-day limited ticket and remain awhile in the east. *Friday 6-14-46*

The one-price ticket bears all expenses there and back except meals. The prices are: $84.10 for a reclining chair seat; $127.92 for a Pullman lower berth, and $124.14 for a Pullman upper berth. *6-14-46*

The tour will leave the Kansas City Union Station on Monday, June 17, at 2 p. m. via the Santa Fe Streamliner, with dining and buffet cars attached. Certificates of identification and tickets will be sent applicants by registered mail if there is suffcient time, otherwise they will be presented at the station at noon June 17.

Remember each ticket purchased pays a round-trip fare, a general admission ticket to the fight and necessary hotel accommodations while in New York. Use a P. O. money order or cashier's check to remit the money.

Joe Gives $200 To Save Man From Georgia Chaingang

Miami Whip

By Irvine I. Turner

POMPTON LAKES, New Jersey —(ANP)—Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion, took time out here last week to enter the fight to block the extradiction of Herman Powell to a Georgia chaingang by presenting Powell's wife with a $200 check. Georgia authorities are seeking to return Powell to Georgia on a charge which he claims innocence.

Mrs. Powell, introduced to Joe at his training camp here by Jimmie Smith, a local sports writer, trembled as she held the champion's hand. Realizing her nervousness, Joe assured the little woman, who stands scarcely five feet, two inches, that "I won't hurt you. I'll help you." *6-8-46-Sat.*

He listened attentively to her story and read a letter she had from his mother, suggesting that she contact the champion for help. Gazing sympathetically, he wrote the check for $200 and assured her she had a great cause to fight for. *Miami, Fla.*

Everybody should help save "this innocent man", he commented. He informed her that he was from Alabama, the state adjoining Georgia, and knew about southern hostility against Negroes. He promised to enlist the aid of Mrs. Roosevelt and the NAACP to save her husband.

"I hope this check will help you," he told her. "I shall be glad to get out and appear at any rally or affair of any nature to help raise the necessary funds to fight your battle. I admire your courage to fight in the face of such odds." *6-8-46-Sat*

The New Jersey Supreme court recently rejected Powell's application against extradiction. His defense committee, headed by Fred R. Clark, and Irvine R. Turner, has already filed application to the court of errors and appeals through the defense lawyer, Attorney Thomas Potter, Princeton, New Jersey, who entered the case two years ago after the NAACP had declined to act on the grounds Powell's case lacks merits for adequate defense.

CONN IMPRESSES IN FAST WORKOUT

New York Times

'Seems Ready to Go Now,' View of Marquess of Queensberry —3,000 See Louis Drill

Monday

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., May 26 (AP)—Billy Conn continued to impress observers with his fine training form as he boxed six rounds outdoors today. More than

1,000 watched the workout.

The Pittsburgh challenger, who will meet Joe Louis at the Yankee Stadium June 19, boxed two rounds each with his brother Jackie, Jimmy Smith and Mickey Belluscio. At the end of the drill, which raised Conn's total number of sparring rounds to 166, the Pittsburgh fighter scaled 183.

The Marquess of Queensberry, who is here to report the fight for a number of British newspapers, took in the workout.

"Conn seems ready to go right now," the grandson of the English nobleman who wrote the rules of boxing commented. "He seems to be in superb condition and extremely fast."

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., May 26 (AP)—Joe Louis was down to 212 pounds after a fast workout today before 3,000 fans, the largest crowd yet to see him train for the title bout with Billy Conn.

After the workout, Marshall Miles, manager of Louis, said "Joe is losing weight so rapidly I had him box only four rounds today instead of the usual six."

Louis looked better than he had in some time. After Al Hoosman had scored effectively with his left jab, Louis let loose and hooked him into the ropes with right and left hand punches. Perk Daniels also fell a victim to Joe's hook while Louis hammered Jimmy Bell around the ring and almost floored him with a left hook.

Louis Nails Spar Partner In Workout

He'll Be Ready To Go 15 Rounds

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 9—(AP)—Aside from the fact that Joe Louis boxed as much as eight rounds for the first time since his training campe opened, the chief development up here in the Jersey lake country today was that the Bomber has finally given up on the Detroit Tigers.

Experts were agreed today's workout was his sharpest to date for his June 19 meeting with Billy Conn; Joe took time out to hold a brief morning session over what he thinks are the chances for his favorite ball club to retain baseball's world champion-

"When I see Newhouser get get plastered by the Boston Red Sox yesterday, I knew it's all over for the Tigers," he admitted.

This is considerably different than what Joe feels about his own world championship when he bumps into Billy, although he conceded today that the Pittsburgh pretty boy has grown up into considerably better than a green hand at the business of scrambling ears.

Joe Won't Pass Opportunity

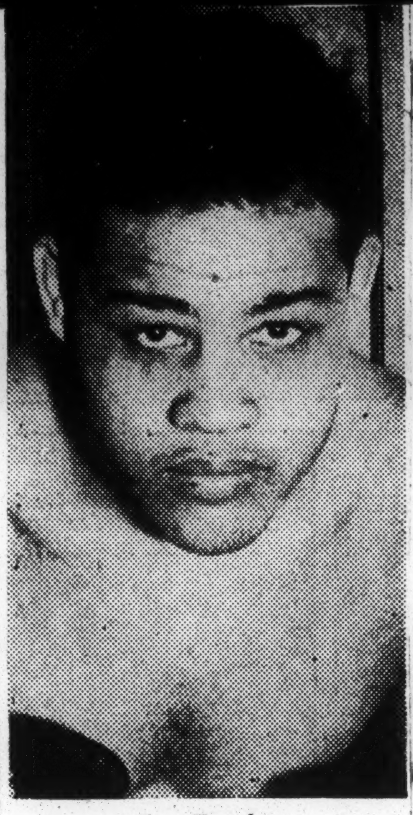
"He was a good light-heavyweight the last time," Joe explained. "Now he's a good heavyweight. His best punch is his hook. Matter of fact, everything about him is good, except his punch. And that don't mean that he's any powder-puff hitter. When he hits you, you feel it."

Joe added, too, that all the folks who are speaking a piece for him and predicting that he's going to hustle out and flatten Conn early a week from Wednesday don't know what they're talking about.

"I'm not going to run out and try to kayo in a hurry," he said flatly. "I'm going to be ready to go the whole route. But that doesn't mean I'll pass up any chances to nail him early, if one comes up."

That his 'nailer" is working in the approved method was obvious today when he had to call an early halt to his two-round session with Jimmy Bell, of Washington, to keep the roof from falling in on Mr. Bell. For a round and a half, Jimmy peppered Joe with left hands, and Joe took them. Then he worked Bell into position, fired his left hook just once, crossed the right twice and Bell began to come apart at the hinges. The round ended there.

Joe put in his longest workout of his prefight siege for one of the largest throngs ever to see a training camp exhibition. Some 5,000 fans jammed every inch of this spacious outdoor layout and just as Joe was finishing his boxing, a section of the packed wooden stands collapsed. Four persons were slightly injured.



Joe Louis

Louis And Conn Ready For Fight

BY GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK, June 19—(AP)—Poor old Joe Louis, a ring-weary veteran of 32, will defend his heavyweight title for the 22nd time tonight at the Yankees' ball park, and he very likely will leave Billy Coon a quivering mass in the resin somewhere about the fourth round.

The indelible impression after watching the big, amber-colored Negro and his slighter but dead-game opponent from Pittsburgh train for the past 10 days is that Louis still carries too many bazookas for Billy, just as he did on another June night five years ago.

The big man who has held the crown for nine years still hits fast and with paralyzing force. His legs still look trim, and he shuffles about on his large feet about as swiftly as ever. He has lost somewhere along the way the quick, fiery temper that once impelled him to slaughter a sparring partner who took liberties, but his associates say he is a better fighter for it.

WSGN TO AIR

WSGN, The News-Age-Herald station, will broadcast the Joe Louis-Billy Conn bout Wednesday night, 8 p.m., it was announced yesterday Bill Corum and Don Dunphy are the voices to be heard over the American Broadcasting System, 610 on your dial.

As for Billy Conn, he will carry into the ring with him tonight no measurably greater weapons than he had that other blazing night when he went down under a hurricane of blows in the 13th round. Billy still has a fighting heart the size of a pumpkin, he is utterly fearless of Joe Louis, he is fast—and he thinks he can win.

Also possibly on the credit side, Billy has put on a few rugged pounds, which might help him take a punch better and hit a little harder, himself. Even so, he still is not much more than a light heavyweight, and he never has been a knocker-out.

Contributing to the late swing to Louis, which became almost a landslide the past few days, was the expressed opinion of numerous keen fight observers, notably Dumb Dan Morgan, that Conn had got himself seriously overtrained and had left his best fight at his camp over in New Jersey. Some thought he looked considerably slower than he was 10 days ago and that his spar mates, especially one Frank Poreda, belted him around much too easily in the concluding workouts.

That could, of course, be so much eyewash. Billy and his handlers insist he is ready to step around Louis tonight and box him dizzy, until the champion's legs become numb from the hips down. Billy points out that he was well ahead on points when Joe tagged him in their other fight, and he has sworn by all the coal in the Pittsburgh district that he will not try to slug with the lightning this time.

"Louis' punches don't leave you dead anyway," he said one day recently. "He hits, hard, sure. But don't forget he had to hit me about 20 more times after that first right to the jaw before he put me down. He won't get the chance this time."

The only thing against Billy's sober argument is that Louis hasn't looked in recent days much like a man who might be evaded for more than a few split seconds, much less 15 rounds. In his final training sessions he jammed on the speed and fairly overwhelmed his sparring partners, dealing out such fearsome punishment that time and again he was forced to hold his man up and stall out the remainder of a round.

Louis has made only one promise: that he will "go out throwing punches" tonight. But he expects to win in an early round, and all his training has been toward that end.

For publication he has predicted that "Billy won't be around for long." Privately, he has picked the third round as the one in which he might catch up with his elusive rival.

Joe always has felt that he was too finely drawn for his first bout with Conn, when he dieted himself down to a shade under 200 pounds in the thought that he needed to be as fast as possible. The result was, he says, that his arms became tired, and he admits frankly that it was only his dumb luck that Billy became over-confident and careless in the 13th round.

With the two gladiators due to weigh in at Madison Square Garden shortly after noon today, the only important question remaining was the choice of referee. The third man never is named until just before the fighters enter the ring.

Eddie Joseph, who worked the last Louis-Conn scrap, and Benny Leonard, the old lightweight champion, have been the most prominently mentioned for the job. Strangely enough, the Conn camp is not partial to Joseph, even though he had Billy ahead, seven rounds to five, on his scorecard in the other bout. Johnny Ray, Conn's manager, felt that Joseph gave his boy a little the worst of it each time he tugged the two fighters apart.

In the event of rain tonight Promoter Mike Jacobs will not refund the $2,000,000 said to be in his till, but will shove the bout up to-morrow night. Ten thousand general admission tickets will go on sale at $5 apiece when the gates open at 6 p.m. (EDT), four hours before the main event. The odds against Conn being the new champion were hovering around 12-to-5, and it was thought they might soar above 1-to-3 by nightfall.

Louis Held 25 Lbs. Edge Over Conn

New York, June 19 (AP).—Champion Joe Louis carried a 25-pound weight advantage over Billy Conn into the Yankee Stadium ring with him tonight for their heavyweight title match, and as a result, the betting odds in favor of the Brown Bomber mounted steadily in the hours before the fight.

Making the 22nd defense in his record run as champion, Louis weighed 207 pounds at the official weigh-in today—7¼ more than for his first meeting with Conn five years ago and one less than he had announced he expected to weigh two days ago—while Conn tipped the beam at 182, seven pounds heavier than in 1941.

Louis Holds Advantage

With the wide weight edge in favor of the champion, the betting odds for the 15-round tussle, which had dropped steadily down to 5 to 11 in the las two days, moved back up to 1 to 3 and over. Some man-to-man bets for sizeable sums were recorded at 5 to 16 in Joe's favor, while the bookmakers' slates went up to 14-17. This meant you took 14 to 5 if you liked Conn and laid 17 to 5 if you went along with the champion.

As the 10 p. m. (EDT) fight time neared, the weatherman's prediction stood up, and early arrivals—who had been ambling into the big Bronx ballyard since 10 a. m. (EDT), 12 hours before the fight-time—found it cloudy and cool, with brisk breezes blowing across the arena.

Some 150 fans were in their seats by 11:30 a. m., watching the carpenters and electricians putting the finishing touches to the new aluminum ringside setup for this most ballyhooed fight in history. More drifted in hour after hour, and Promoter Mike Jacobs predicted that he still expected a crowd of 65,000 to 70,000 and a gate of about $2,500,000.

500 Newsmen Watch

Conn and Louis went through the usual lengthy weigh-in and physical examination which took place in Madison Square Garden before some 500 newsmen, and then retired to their respective local quarters to relax until fight time.

In mid-afternoon, after he had taken a bow for the marchers in a Harlem parade in his honor—which attracted 20,000 persons to seventh ave. along the line of march—Joe had his usual steak, featuring the black-eyed peas he considers a good-luck omen on fight days. Billy, who breakfasted on three soft boiled eggs, as usual, had three more of the same for his dinner—his customary diet—and even turned down Manager Johnny Ray's suggestion of a broiled lamb chop.

Afterward, each took a nap and then began to get ready for the trip to the stadium at 7:30 p. m. Handlers reported both slept well, with neither showing any signs of nervousness.

THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

Louis' New Boss — Marshall Miles

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—Mister Marshall Miles, the Buffalo dairy man, woke up one fine morning last winter and discovered that he had a new million dollar egg on his hands in the form of Joe Louis, the heavyweight champion of the world. "Mild Marshall" was lying there in bed, counting his chickens before they hatched and wondering if "Bessie," the ole cow in the pasture, was as contended with the world as he was at the moment. Things were going pretty good for the short, thin man with the jutted jaw. The Jerseys on his profitable dairy farm were mooing in heavenly bliss and his fine feathered friends, the hens, were working overtime. Consequently, the green-backs were rolling in and Mr. Miles was building a nice little nest. He had to admit to himself that it was nice to be alive with the chickens and cows and butter at his beck and call.

But his thoughts were interrupted suddenly when a member of the household broke into his inner-sanctum with the morning papers in his hand.

"Congratulations!" cried the happily excited intruder. "It says here you're the new manager of the heavyweight champion of the world. You're a lucky man!"

Mr. Miles sat up erect in the bed, grabbed the paper, and proceeded to read that Joe Louis had announced that his new manager was "Marshall Miles of Buffalo, N. Y."

"I don't know whether I'm lucky or not," the dairy man said as he climbed out of the bed. "This is a great responsibility. I've always wanted a million dollars but I didn't think it would come to me in the form of the heavyweight champion of the world. I knew this life of contentment I've been living couldn't last. It was too peaceful. But if Joe Louis and John Roxborough want me to serve them, I'll gladly help them out. They're my friends and that's all that matters."

* * *

His Appointment a Surprise

The appointment of the little butter and egg man from Buffalo as Louis' manager came as a surprise to everyone on the outside. Sports writers scratched their heads and asked, "Who the hell is Marshall Miles? How did he get in the picture?" It was known all along that Louis would have to name a new manager, but it was the consensus of opinion that he'd name some one well known in the fight game.

"Well, it happened in a very natural sort of way," Miles explained in Mike Jacobs' spacious offices last Friday afternoon. "Joe, John Roxborough and myself had been friends for years. We used to visit each other a lot and when Joe went to California at various times, he always stayed in my winter home there. We had a lot in common and when they asked me if I'd take over the managerial role, I accepted because they were my friends."

This isn't the first time Marshall Miles has been circulating in the topsy-turvy world of fistiania. He formerly managed Jimmy Clark, a young Buffalo battler who was a sensation in the 1936 Olympics as a member of the United States boxing team. Clark turned pro after the Olympics and seemed destined for great things in the welterweight division. For some reason he never got any place, much to Miles' disappointment. When the opposition got to bopping Clark around with a monotonous regularity, Miles made Jimmy hang up his gloves.

"Jimmy started out in great style," the mild-mannered pilot explained, "but when he started taking a lot of beatings I told him he had to quit. I wouldn't manage any fighter who couldn't take care of himself."

After his fling with Jimmy Clark, the Buffalo dairy man stepped out of the fistic picture as a manager. He remained an ardent fan, however, and was usually sitting in the first row at the big fights in New York when Louis fought.

* * *

He Stays Behind the Scenes

Now he is back in the game, acting as Louis' manager and handling all the affairs here at Pompton Lakes. It is a huge responsibility, but as he goes about his business day in and day out, you get the impression that the little man from Buffalo knows what the score is. Like John Roxborough, he is quiet and inconspicuous. If some one didn't point him out, you'd never suspect that he is the boss of the most prized piece of fighting machinery in the world. Unlike most fight managers, Miles is always behind the scene. He handles the many problems that flare up in camp with a methodical thoroughness and never seems to get excited.

"It's a big job," Miles admits, "but I don't mind it. It's costing us $50,000 to operate this camp. Some people think that it's just a case of being around while Joe works out and seeing to it that everything is in order. But there's more to it than just that. There's a lot of money involved. For instance, it costs approximately $150 per day for sparring partners. We feed on the average of twenty-one people a day, including Joe and the other official members of the camp. Bill Bottoms, the famous chef who has been with the champion for years, spends about $75 a day just for food. Our admission price to the camp is $1.30 and we get some of our money back that way, but not very much of it. No money is made at a training camp."

Miles is a shrewd task-master and in his quiet way runs the camp with an iron hand. You might call him a clock-watcher. Everything here is done by the clock and run on a rigid schedule. Meals are served right on the dot, Louis trains on a schedule that is figured down to the last minute and everyone goes to bed by 11 o'clock at night, including the sparring partners, the kibitzers and Mr. Joe Louis, the "champeen" himself.

* * *

Predicts Joe Will Win by Kayo

"The easiest part of this job," Miles said, "is Joe Louis himself. He's no beginner in this business, you know. Joe knows how to train himself and he goes about it just as seriously as he ever did. Some fighters make a problem out of training, but not Joe. He simply does the things Jack Blackburn taught him to do. He knows just how much to train and when to ease up or speed up. I never have to go around looking for him when it's time to start working out. He follows the schedule we've mapped out perfectly. No one has to worry about Louis' condition. He's going to be ready for Conn on the night of June 19. He'll be in perfect condition."

Does Marshall Miles think Louis will beat Conn again? He certainly does!

"There is no doubt in my mind whatsoever," he said. "And, I don't think it's going to take as long this time as it did before. Louis is going to knock him out again, only this time it's going to be sooner.

"Some people are going around saying that Joe will lose the fight so he and Conn can fight again in September and make another million dollars. But those people don't know Joe Louis. That title is everything in the world to him. No champion in history ever wore the heavyweight crown with more pride and dignity than Louis. Then, too, all kinds of things happen in the fight game, you know. You can bet your boots that if Conn should win that crown, he'd salt it away and never give Louis another crack at it. Louis is no dummy. He realizes that, and he's going to stay the heavyweight champion of the world just as long as he can. Just between us, Billy Conn is in for a very bad lacing."

Miles believes that Louis, at 32 years of age, is a greater fighter than he ever was.

"Time is taking its toll, there's no doubt about that," he said, "but Joe knows more about fighting today than he ever did. He's not as fast as he was seven years ago but he's still the greatest puncher of all time, and he can box just as good or better than Conn. But the important thing is that he knows so much more now. He knows just what to do and how to do it. He's a finished fighter and probably has more finesse and polish than any champion in history, including Gene Tunney. And don't forget this: Joe Louis loves to fight. Any time a man loves his work, he's good at it. Personally, I think he's going to be the champion for a long, long time."

The forty-year-old manager of the heavyweight champion doesn't go around bragging about Louis. In fact, he won't say anything unless you get him cornered. Whatever he says, he says it quickly and without fanfare.

He works diligently from early morning to late at night. He realizes his great responsibility and he's determined to do a good job. And, his word around the camp is final. All the publicity and glamor that goes with the job isn't exactly to his liking because he's a rather conservative man who prefers to stay in the background. But he's in a position that puts him right out there in the middle of the stage with everyone looking on, so he plays his part and does what he can to keep everybody satisfied.

There are thousands of people who would like to be in Marshall Miles' shoes. There are thousands who would get a great thrill out of telling the heavyweight champion what he can do and cannot do. And thousands more who would get a great kick out of being interviewed and having their pictures splashed all over the newspapers.

But not "Mild Marshall." He takes everything in stride and gives you the impression that as soon as Louis knocks out Billy Conn, he's gonna rush right back to Buffalo and resume where he left off with his fine feathered hens and "Bessie," the ole contented cow.

Louis-Conn Million Dollar Battle May End In Upset

By FAY YOUNG

The physical sharpness of the principals plus the possibility of an upset are two attractive ingredients in the million-dollar Joe Louis-Billy Conn fistic brew to be served in Yankee stadium by Promoter Mike Jacobs Wednesday night, June 19.

Especially imbedded in Mr. Average Sport Fan's mind is the possibility of Heavyweight Champion Louis losing his crown in this rematch with one of the most troublesome foes he has faced during a long and colorful reign as the world's No. 1 prize fighter.

This fear for the Brown Bomber, whom Chicagoans claim as a fellow citizen, comes from the fact that Louis is without the guidance of John Roxborough of Detroit and Julian A. Black of Chicago, who, as co-managers, piloted the champion from the amateur ranks to the world championship in 1937, and in 22 defenses of his title plus some exhibition matches.

Louis will also be without the services of the late Jack Blackburn, shrewd trainer and former boxer, who superintended the training and preparation of Louis in all of his bouts until December 1941 when he was too sick to help Louis prepare for the second Buddy Baer fight on Jan. 9, 1942.

Manny Seamon, white, who assisted Blackburn, is now Louis' chief trainer. George Nicholson, Yonkers, N.Y., heavyweight, who always served as Louis' number one sparmate, now becomes the Brown Bomber's assistant trainer. Larry Amadee, Chicago trainer and formerly assistant to Blackburn, is in Chicago—nearly a thousand miles away from the Louis camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J. Amadee has received a call from the Louis camp requesting him to report four days before the Conn fight and to be in Louis' corner on June 19.

Marshall Miles has been named by Louis as his manager until Roxborough's release from the Michigan state penitentiary in Lansing, Mich., where he is serving a term along with a number of Detroit city officials, following the Motor City graft scandal, investigation and court trials.

Chicagoans have questioned the naming of Miles as manager and the sidetracking of Black, also Louis' insistence that Roxborough would be his manager when released. These well wishers of Louis know the conviction of Roxborough puts him out of the role of manager, according to the laws governing boxing in the various states where the game is legalized.

Louis' friends here and yon, also are upset and much worried about the champion's chances to win his second fight against Conn because Mike Jacobs' nephew acted as Louis manager during a trip to the coast this past fall and winter. These friends all wonder why?

There are all sorts of rumors floating around. The ordering of Louis to the Indiana camp by Jacobs over long-distance phone before the Brown Bomber left Chicago, the report by Ray Robinson after visiting both camps, that Conn was in better condition at the time Robinson saw him work out than his friend, Louis, was a few days before. And the word coming from the "wise guys" in New York to the effect that it is in the bag for Conn to win.

These rumors plus the fact that Marva and the baby will get 32½ per cent of Louis' purse as agreed to by the champion in the recent divorce suit here; the huge sum Louis personally owes Mike Jacobs, and the amount Louis owes the government for back income taxes causes Louis' best friends to become alarmed.

All this doesn't help Louis' morale on June 19. However, Conn has had family troubles, needs money, also owes the government back income taxes.

Maybe you can figure it out.

The Sportview

By Chauncey Durden

Louis at Best Fighting Weight

NEW YORK, June 17—What went on at the training camps of Joe Louis and Billy Conn today was about as exciting as the Georgie Abrams-Johnny Lawer 10-round feature on the Richmond police card last Thursday night.

The champion and the challenger completed their training with Sunday's workouts. Today's training camp chores were just that—chores. The visiting firemen—and we never before realized just how many firemen can go a visiting at one time—saw nothing as Brown Joe and Billy The Kid worked just enough to keep the fine edge they are supposed to have reached some days ago.

At Louis' Pompton Lakes training site they are talking about the champion coming in Wednesday night at no more than 206 pounds, perhaps as low as 204 pounds. Which means that the Brown Bomber, despite his layoff of five years, will weigh right at the best fighting weight he knew before he enlisted in the Army and "retired" for the duration. Louis' best fighting weight in prewar days was 203 pounds.

Which means the champion has done nothing but work since he started training at Pompton Lakes. Those who saw Louis last Winter when he was traveling about the country with a colored jazz band and revue will recall that Brown Joe weighed somewhere in the neighborhood of 230 pounds. But the hanging jowls and the slight "rubber" waist are gone now. Louis looks like the champion of 1941.

That leaves his timing and his legs to consider. As for the former, the fellows who watched him work in his last few real workouts declare he was hitting as sharply and cleanly as ever. As for his legs, one never knows about a fighter's legs after he passes the 30-year mark. Jack Dempsey, whose "Grables" failed him in the second Tunney fight, says the fighter himself never knows his underpinnings are gone until he calls on them and they refuse to accept the charges.

Excepting the doubtful condition of his legs—and Joe has done 462 miles of road work for this fight. Far more, we'd say, than Dempsey did for his unsuccessful attempt to regaining the championship against Tunney—Louis is to be in prime condition.

* * * * *

Conn Doesn't Look Any Larger

AS DOES Conn over at his Greenwood Lake training camp. The Pittsburgh kid doesn't look appreciably larger than he did the June night in 1941 he led Louis for 12 rounds. Only to run into disaster and a knockout in the fatal thirteenth round. But the scales don't lie and Conn yesterday weighed 180 pounds, some 10 or more pounds than he actually weighed for the first Louis scrap.

Conn, the keenest boxer the heavyweight division has seen since Tunney, apparently has lost little of his speed and hits harder than he did five years ago. While his blue-print for the championship bout calls for outspeeding and outpointing Louis, the fact remains that the challenger, who would rather fight than eat, would like to stop the champion. For all his talk about not slugging with the champion, Conn is toying with the idea of a knockout in the late rounds. He figures, as do some observers, that Louis will tire in the late rounds and that he might step in then and deliver the big blow.

Still, Conn, remembering from personal experience the lethal power in Louis' fists, maintains he will take no chances until he sees the champion is hurt.

And when will he know Louis is hurt?

"When I see him on the canvas."

Which isn't the most original or enlightening remark in pugilistic history.

* * * * *

Pictures Help to Tell the Story

SOME of the "experts," taking a leaf from Carl Snavely's book—you haven't forgotten that the North Carolina football coach was the first to make extensive use of moving pictures, have you?—have spent hours looking at the motion pictures of the first Louis-Conn bout. And some of those "flicker happy" souls have discovered that Conn lacks the punching speed he carried into the ring with him in June, 1941.

They maintain that Conn's best blow against the Brown Bomber in their first fight was a left hook to the jaw. Which is absolutely correct. It seemed that Conn hooked that left to Joe's chin whenever he wanted to in their previous meeting. And those who have studied closely and kept close tab on Louis' training workouts say the champion has been working on a defense for that one; that Conn's left this time will have to be lowered to the body, if it is to land.

We don't know about that, but we do recall the first Louis-Conn fight vividly and we spent some hours watching the movies after that scrap. And what we saw and resaw differs somewhat from the versions both Louis and Conn have been giving about the '41 bout.

Conn, if you'v ebeen a day-by-day reader of the ballyhoo from the two training camps, maintains he was knocked out because he lost his head and attempted to slug it out with one of, if not the hardest hitters the ring has seen. Louis, on the other hand, contends that Conn did not attempt to make a slugging match of it; that he, Louis, crossed a right over Billy's usual left hook—and that was that.

Louis is correct about that right over Billy's left, but it was considerably more than that one punch which wound up that fight. Louis' right made jelly of Conn's knees all right, just as did Conn's series of lefts to Joe's head in the 12th round. But Conn seemed to have recovered from the right in the 13th and got away. While they were sparring at a distance, Louis jabbed with his left—and Louis' jab is a punch, not a jab—and Conn's head flew back. He was hurt and then the Brown Bomber stepped in and delivered hisfull load. Some observers who count by the numbers estimate that Louis threw and connected with 15 more blows after that job to send Conn down for the long count of 10.

Which is "proof positive" that Conn does take a good blow. What other fighter took 15 blows when he was hurt by Louis before going down?

One thing more: The movies show that Louis was hurt in the 12th round by Conn. Had it not been for the hopes, on which the champion was hanging, and some hanging-on by the Brown Joe when Conn moved in and tried to wrest Louis from the ropes, Louis would have gone down. He was hurt. Definitely so, but he covered up beautifully and weathered the storm. Something Conn could not do a round later.

But that first Conn-Louis fight has been refought to the point of boredom. This one is the one that counts. Tomorrow, bright and early. We'll give you the winner straight from Durden's Doghouse. And this prediction could be better than those Lord Boswell-over-Assault ones.

K.O. Over Louis Not Conn's Goal

Billy Plans to Box Champion, Not Make Mistake of Last Battle

By SID FEDER

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 14 (AP) — Some of the fellows were saying that the way Billy Conn has been training, and throwing haymakers, and all, it looked as if he was figuring on going out there and flattening Joe Louis Wednesday night. Billy just grinned about it.

"Now wouldn't that be smart?" he tossed off. "The last time, I had Joe beat for 12 rounds just on boxing, then I went out and slugged with him in the 13th and he put the lights out for me.

"Does it figure I'll be making the same mistake again? Nope—Willie isn't that dumb. He can take a hint."

So you take it from the guy most interested in the proceedings—Mr. Conn—that the idea of walking out and knocking the roof in on Joe is almost as far from his mind as the thought of his own losing. At the moment, sweet William doesn't see how he can miss.

STRATEGY

"I'm going to box him all the way," he outlined his strategy. "I know I'm as fast as I was five years ago. I feel strong and I'm in shape. I'll box his ears off—and I'll be the champ."

Now, that does not mean that Conn won't be willing to move right in on Joe and punch. He did that the last time without losing any limbs. When he was told that a forcing, forward-going fight is on Louis' mind, too, for the forthcoming festivities, he thought that was just dandy, because it would set off some firecrackers, and Billy's the kind of Irishman who would almost rather fight than eat. Unless it's steak, anyway.

There is no doubt "Junior" is a stiffer swatter now than he was five years ago. The eight to ten pounds he's put on since then all have been added around the neck and shoulders, giving him more power, as his well-splattered sparmates will attest. To the Pittsburgh pretty boy's way of thinking, that only makes his boxing and speed more dangerous.

"No—I'm not thinking of a kayo, that's for sure," he repeated, "unless, of course, I see a leg fall off Joe, or something."

* * *

Louis Takes Last Rest

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 14 (AP)—Joe Louis, in earnest training for his meeting with Billy Conn next Wednesday evening, snoozed placidly through much of a rainy day, today, rousing his large self only occasionally to eat and inquire if the fish were biting.

The champion took full advantage of his last complete day of rest before he lays his title on the line in Yankee Stadium. He intends to box six rounds tomorrow, eight on Sunday and a final four-round stint Monday, with a few miles of road work each morning.

The feeling around Joe's camp was that the big Negro probably would take things very easy against his sparring partners from here on, risking no last-minute injuries to his hands and taking no chances of incurring a cut on his face that Conn might be able to work on.

EATS BETTER

Perhaps the most important information elicited in a careful investigation of the Louis camp today was the fact, vouched for by Joe's personal cook, Bill Bottoms, that the champion is eating a lot better than he did before his first scrap with Conn five years ago.

"Before that other fight, Joe worried me the way he dieted," recalled Bottoms, who reportedly commands a $5,000 fee for presiding over the Louis training kitchen. "I told him he wasn't eating enough, and sure enough, his arms got weary along about the eighth round.

"This time I told him: 'Joe, you forget about that dieting and eat plenty. Don't worry about your weight. Just train and eat plenty and you'll be all right.' That's what he's been doing, and he's strong as a bushel of onions."

Bottoms picks Joe to retain his title, incidentally.

For that matter, a hasty poll today of eight sports writers from a half-dozen cities brought eight votes for Louis to win by a knockout somewhere between the third and 11th rounds. It just happened that all of the eight saw Louis box yesterday and saw him nearly decapitate Al Hoosman, a good heavyweight, with a right. That one punch, in other words, was an eye-full.

SIMILAR POLL

It is entirely probable that a similar poll of eight observers who watched Conn work at his nearby camp at Greenwood Lake yesterday would have shown a unanimous vote for Billy the Kid. It is that kind of a proposition.

The Louis adherents were whispering around today that Joe had expressed the private opinion he would stow Conn away inside four rounds.

Among his visitors was Jackie Robinson, the Negro baseball star of the Montreal Royals, who is out of the line-up for a couple of weeks with a pulled muscle in his right leg.

Joe Louis (Conn)

BRINGS BATTLE OF BOXERS TO BIRMINGHAM—Millions of sports fans throughout the world, comprising what is expected to be the largest audience in the history of commercial broadcasting, will "see" the blow-by-blow heavyweight boxing championship match between Joe Louis and Billy Conn through the word-pictures drawn at ringside by expert sportscasters Bill Corum (left, above) and Don Dunphy (right). The broadcast is scheduled to go on the air at 8 p.m. Wednesday from the Yankee Stadium, New York, over ABC's WSGN. Both Corum and Dunphy are boxing authorities, having covered more than 200 fights on the "Cavalcade of Sports" programs.

The Sports Trail

Writer Decides Louis Still Best Despite Age And Weight Handicaps

By WHITNEY MARTIN.

Courier Journal

Cleveland, June 17 (AP)—It may not be polite to express likes and dislikes, but we can't resist saying we like Joe Louis. We like Billy Conn, too, for that matter but not in the same way.

That is, we like Joe Louis over Billy Conn in their 15-round heavyweight championship fight at Yankee Stadium Wednesday night. We like him to stop the handsome Pittsburgher somewhere along the route, and if it went to a decision we'd still like him. 6-18-46

We know that Conn is a bigger, stronger man than he was the last time they met, and that he is almost fanatical in his determination to win.

Billy Conn

But we like Louis.

We know that Louis, 32 and four years away from ring competition might be slowed up more than Conn, 28, from an approximately identical layoff, and that the added weight he has picked up might do him more harm than Billy's added weight will do him good.

But we like Louis.

We know that the elusive Conn was ahead on points, or at least approximately even, for 12 points of their last fight before Louis caught him in the 13th, and that he is prepared to dance and jab and hook his way the full 15 rounds this time, outspeeding the older champion.

Pride In Title Strong

But we like Louis. Louisville Ky.

We like him because, for one thing, he is champion and he once knocked out the man he is fighting Wednesday.

We like him because we think his pride in the title and his determination to keep it are no less strong than Conn's desire to win it.

We like him because he is a good big man fighting a good little man, and if his feet have slowed a little he still retains the speed in his hands and the tremendous punching power that have made him one of the better champions.

Joe Louis

We like him because he has beaten every man he faced a second time, and all but one the first time, and he faced every fighter who conceivably could be considered a contender. It is quite probable that Billy would have quite a tough time defeating some of the huge physical specimens the champion has beaten, such as Abe Simon and Buddy Baer. Billy has had his troubles with lighter men who would not be considered a fit match for Joe. Jnls. 6-18-46

Training Timed for Peak

We like him because he has timed his training to reach the peak at the opportune time, while Conn seems to have reached top form too early.

We like him because he will be in there knowing he took Conn's best punches before and survived, while Billy will have the memory of that knockout haunting him, and knows that at any second the lights might go out for him as they did in the 13th round of their last meeting.

We like him because we think his boxing ability always has been underestimated as stress was placed on his punching power.

We like him because all he needs is one quick opening to end the fight, and some time in the 45 minutes of fighting that opening will appear.

We like him because he has prepared for this fight calmly and methodically, while Conn, with the victory obsession, has been keyed up for too long, with the prolonged tension doing him no good.

And finally, we like him because it's always a good idea to string along with a champion, as you only can be wrong once.

And if we are going to be wrong, always a possibility as if Conn had no chance there would be no point in staging the bout, we might as well be good and wrong.

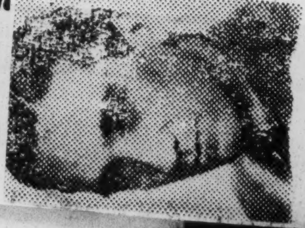
So we'll pick Louis in one round.

This Morning

Post Washington D.C.

With Shirley Povich

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 6.—Mike Jacobs himself personally promoted a sparring session between Champion Joe Louis and the fight-writing press today. After a huddle with Louis in the dressing room, Jacobs announced the daily press conference would precede the workout, a departure from custom, and said "You can have him for the next 15 minutes." Friday 6-7-46



POVICH

As Trainer Manny Seamon proceeded with the bandaging of Louis' hands, the champ neatly picked off the first lead pitched at him. "Do you plan to fight Conn the same way as the last time?" somebody asked.

Joe grinned, doubtless at the memory of the 12 embarrassing rounrs he had with Conn before knocking him out. "I think," he said, "I'll go about it differently this time." There wasn't much doubt that he meant he didn't want to spend 12 rounds catching up with Conn.

How about the stuff in the papers, about Conn saying he was a good bet to win Louis' title? The champion grinned again. "I don't read the papers," he said.

~

Was he satisfied with the way things were going in his camp? Did he like the way he was getting into condition?

"I'm satisfied," said Louis.

Conn was ready to fight him now, Louis was told.

"I'll be ready to fight Conn two days before the fight and any time after that."

His sparring partners, it was observed, were roughing him up in these early weeks of training.

"I been saying they're the best sparring partners I ever had. There's no sense beating up good sparring partners. They might decide to go home, and then where would I be."

How about that right hand that one of the papers said he was favoring?

"I haven't had any trouble with my right hand. Tell you what. Why don't you ask Conn about my right hand after the fight?"

Gene Tunney, he was reminded, had said that a boxer always had the edge over a puncher. What did he think?

"That sounds funny, because I see where Tunney's picking me to beat Conn."

Does Joe consider himself a boxer or a puncher?

"I guess I'm a puncher. But I think I can box enough to keep warm."

~

Surely he rated Conn a pretty good boxer?

Yes, he is a good boxer. Sometimes I think he is a better boxer than Tunney was. But there's always one trouble about boxers."

Such as what? Post, Washington D.C.

"Well, the boxer always has to watch out the puncher don't catch up with him. The boxer can't make any mistakes. He can be in front in the fourteenth round, and he's not home yet.

If you get the puncher out in front in the eighth round, he figures to win. A puncher can make mistakes and still win. The boxer can't do that." Friday 6-7-46

Was he planning on another bout before the end of the summer?

"My next big match, I think, will be in the Tam O'Shanter Open at Chicago, the first week in July. I figure to be in shape for that one. Shot a 68 over the course here a couple weeks ago."

How much was he weighing in at now, and what did he figure would be his fighting weight?

"I guess I'm around 212-14 now. Maybe I'll go in at 207 or 208. I was down too fine the last time I was in with Conn. I don't want to make that mistake again. Whatever my weight is, I don't care, long as I feel strong." 6-7-46

Trainer Manny Seamon politely suggested that they break it up and let Louis go to work. Three hundred fans who paid $1.30 to watch him go six rounds with his sparring partners, were getting impatient outside.

Louis got a cheer as he bounced into the ring. For five minutes he stepped fancily about, shadow boxing and grunting on every punch he threw, except a jab. Then they tied the gloves on Louis and Al Hoosman, the first of his sparmates.

Hoosman, who like every other Louis sparring partner is a main eventer in his own right, stabbed Louis pertly with a long left hand, and even impudently for most of the first round. The champion was content to stay on the defensive.

Midway of round two, Hoosman clipped Louis with a right hand to the head. Joe was getting a bit fed up, perhaps. Anyway, he hooked a wicked left to Hoosman's chin, and was setting him up for a hard right when Trainer Seamon called "time." Actually, the round had onther minute to go, but Louis trainer was fearful, less the champion belt out a good sparring partner. They're too valuable hereabouts.

This Morning

Post

With Shirley Povich

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 3.—No, he didn't underestimate Billy Conn in their fight five years ago when it took him 13 rought rounds to knock Conn out, Joe Louis said today. "I was over-trained for that fight. Down too fine. I know'd that after the first couple rounds. My punch wasn't snappin'."

POVICH

That's all Louis said, but his trainer, Manny Seamen, wouldn't let it rest at that. He insisted on telling the whole story later, a wholly believable story of how Louis jeopardized his title for the sac kof appearances in that 1941 battle with Conn.

"We argued with him, and pleaded with him not to go below 200 pounds," said Seamen, "but he had his way. He's too modest to tell you what really happened, but I'm not. Sure, Joe was overtrained, but the reason was that he was oversensitive.

"Joe knew they were building Conn up to around 172 pounds. His own best fighting weight was around 207, and he was self-conscious about the big advantage he would have on Conn. He didn't want anybody saying he was picking on an over-stuffed middleweight. He wanted to go in under 200 pounds himself, because he thought it would look beter. He wasn't satisfied until we weighed him at 199¾." 6-4-46-Tues.

Lewis is now weighing in at between 212 and 214 pounds. He thinks he'll be about 208 at 2 o'clock on June 19, a figure that will give hi ma 30-pound pull against Conn, but this time he isn't going to be ashamed of his weight advantage. He learned the hard way that he weakens himself when he's down below 203.

When Louis last fought Conn he had recently completed his famous bum-of-the1month tour in which he had fought seven in seven months. When he was knocked out of the ring by uddy Baer in Washington only 23 days before the Conn fight, he weighed only 203. After fighting Conn at 199¾, he went into the ring against Lou Nova a few weeks later and was up to 206 pounds. The difference in Louis' punching was evident. He knocked Nova out cold with one punch, a straight right to the chin, the first good punch he threw after patiently waiting six rounds to land it.

Promoter Mike Jacobs wouldn't have liked what Louis said later in the day when reporters asked him if he thought it was going to be a tough fight against Conn. Louis said no, he didn't think so, and the broad hint was that he thought he wouldn't have much trouble taking Conn this time, "if I get in the right kind of condition."

Washington, D.C.

Louis said "The fighters ain't going to win this fight. Condition will win it. I don't want to make any mistakes about my condition this time." He repeated he didn't underrate Conn last time, "cause he's a good fighter who likes to fight, and I know that. I don't underrate nobody, except I guess I overrated myself the last time. I hope I'm smarter now."

By this time, the champion was talking pretty freely. He talked about Conn's style. "He only throws three kind of punches," said Louis. "He gives you that left jab, and that left hok and that straight right he throws. That's all you have to watch for from Conn. I don't think he's come up with anything new, but if he has, I guess I'll find out, but he's a three-punch man.

"What you have to be careful about when you fight Conn is that left hook. He ain't like my sparring partners who hook me once and that's all. When Conn steps inside, you know he's gonna hook you twice, first in the body and then lift it to the head. That's good stuff, but it's nice to know you're always going to be hooked twice by Conn."

6-4-46-Tue.

In his six-roun workout with three different sparmates yesterday, Louis was in a positively jovial mood, a break in what had been the dead-serious atmosphere of the Louis camp. Through his mouthpiece hewas talking to his sparring partners, telling big George Fitch "I think you better duck or I'll belt you out," and then taking a pitcher's full wind-up and clouting Fitch good.

But chiefly Louis wes content to stay on the defensive, especially when Jimmy Bell, the Washington light heavyweight, was in for two rounds against him. Bell is the sparring partner who most closely resembles Conn's style, and Louis lets him keep throwing punches without a return while he tries to fathom Bell's style.

Whereupon, the Pompton Lakes police chief, sitting in the press row was prompted to whisper, "I don't know much about boxing, but should a champion get hit that much?" The answer, of course, is yes and no.

This Morning

Washington Post

With Shirley Povich

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 7.—Moving from Joe Louis training camp to the remodeled juke joint where Billy Conn does his training, the contrasts are such as to reflect the personalities of the two fighters. Serious-minded Louis would not abide the goings-on in Billy Boy's delightfully informal camp.

POVICH

The champion comes out of his cottage for his public workout in the nearby ring escorted by a State trooper and a handler, who wave off autograph seekers. "No autographs until after the workout," is the rule. While Louis' hands are being wrapped, he is not to be disturbed by public or press. A policeman and a private bodyguard are at the door.

Washington D.C.

Not that Louis is any kind of a prude, or the least bit unfriendly. He simply doesn't want any kidding around in these last two weeks before the big fight. He didn't put up the "No smoking" signs around the indoor arena, but they are there, and Joe thinks that is proper. When he comes out to shadow box for 10 minutes before going to work with his sparring partners, Louis doesn't seem to hear the applause of the fans who paid $1.30, including tax, to see him work. Sat 6-8-46

The spectators are reinded that this is all serious business. The excitable fan who yells "Hook him again, Joe," is gruffly rebuked by Trainer Manny Seamon's harsh "No comment, puh-lease." And for six rounds it goes like that with the gallery stilled, and Louis giving no indication that the privacy of his rural retreat has been invaded.

Sixteen miles distant at Conn's place it's all so wonderfully different. Gaiety reigns in the big house, and in fact, the joint is jumping. To bars have been set up for the paying customers and Conn's dressing room off the hall where the jitter bugs used to hold forth, is the hang-out of a stampeding mob of handlers, sparring partners, fight writers, plain fans, friends from Pittsburgh and hangers-on.

Conn waves to everybody, talks to everybody, autographs anything and everything, even with his gloves on, and feels no sense of being imposed upon. Conn training camps have always been like that and he thinks its all right. He likes people around all the time, especially his friends from Pittsburgh, and the place is now beginning to look like a suburb fo Pittsburgh. Washington D.C.

When he works inside, Conn punches through a blue haze of cigar and cigarette smoke. He punches the big bag for a few minutes and stops to talk with anybody who wants to talk. The challenger acts like a fellow with time on his hands despite the fact he will go into the ring with Louis less than two weeks hence. He sees no reason why he shouldn't talk about Lous, if that's what you want to talk about. It's not a forbidden subject.

In fact, you get the idea that Conn relishes the whole business of getting into the ring with Louis. "I want that title," he says, as if it were the most important thing in the world, and with Conn it actually is. "Louis has had it a long time," he says, and his tone is begrudging. Conn thinks the title is now due him, and he's out to get it. Post Washington D.C.

Never do you get the impression that Conn is the least bit scared Louis or doubtful that he can lick the champion. Training is no drudgery for Conn, who likes to fight and has been fighting ever since his youth on the city streets. His biggest problem is pulling his punches against his sparring partners. It's against Conn's nature to pull a punch. 6-8-46 Saturday

Nobody ever said Joe Louis wasn't a nice guy, and people like Billy Conn, too, but Conn can be mean in the ring and rough out of it. He looks like a 28-year-old cherub with a broken nose, but he's been a tough kid all his life and still is. The sparring partners who happens to belt him good had better watch out. Billy doesn't like to be shoved around.

When Conn's younger brother, Jackie, decided he wanted to be a fighter Billy thought that was a perfectly reasonable ambition, didn't try to dissuade him. Jackie fought in one of the preliminaries of the Conn-Gus Lesnevich fight, and they brought him back to the dressing room quickly. A fellow named Mutt Wormer had knocked Jackie out in the second round.

Conn is a cold guy, he took one look at the beaten-up Jackie, and, offering him no consolation, muttered something about "A fine thing for the family."

Muriel Rahn Leading Choice For Solo Spot

Amsterdam News

NEW YORK—Muriel Rahn, singing star of several recent Broadway musicals, has the inside track for the most coveted singing chore of the year—singing the national anthem at the Joe Louis-Billy Conn battle of the century (note?) at Yankee Stadium here June 19. Miss Rahn has been selected to sing the stirring hymn at dozens of bond rallies and victory programs throughout the war and is a familiar figure at countless charity affairs in Madison Square Garden and the large hotels in midtown Manhattan.

Sat 6-15-46

While Mike Jacobs, the promoter, has not publicly announced his selection for the chore it is known that he leans toward a Negro singer because of Louis' admirable record of service during the war when he made perhaps the largest single contributions to service charities of any individual. The late Gustha McCuroy, noted young lyric soprano, was the first Negro to sing the anthem at a major sporting event in the Garden. Miss Rahn's name was submitted to the promoter several months ago and at that time he indicated that it would receive favorable consideration.

I'M TELLING YOU...

P.M. New York, N.Y.

When the traveler is greeted by the sight of two mountain goat that have been sawed in halves and mounted, with unblinking eyes, ther any reasoning person should well know that some bizarre institution such as a training camp for fighters, is near at hand.

The goats are in Paretta's Restaurant, which is on the Paterson-Hamburg turnpike only a few minutes outside of Joe Louis' training camp in Pompton Lakes, N. J. The front halves of the goats have been mounted on make-believe stone, their front feet standing there, the bodies projecting from the stone, as if they had been caught in a passing glacier. Men hang their hats on the horns, so, with hats on, the goats look like men trying to outstare the wife when coming home after being missing a couple or three days. Thurs 6-13-46

After the goats came the camp. Already in the spectators' seats by the side of the training ring under the many trees were three bearded, fez-wearing Mohammedans from Hague-O-Vakia, or Newark, to be precise. The fezzes were red, the bearded men austere, and they refused to give their names. They simply said they were Mohammedans from Newark and let it go at that.

At the moment, "he" was sleeping, after lunch. In a fight camp, the fighter is "he" or "him," depending on the requirements of grammar. Seldom, if ever, is his great name used. Word had spread among the hundreds of people milling around that "he is taking a nap." It soon spread around that "he" woke up. "He" lives in a cottage, with a guard at the door, and trees between the cottage and the ring. In due course, the phantom couriers carried the word that "they're coming out with him."

This proved to be true, because Joe Louis slowly came from the back of the cottage, and stood a minute, while 18 or 19 assorted people ringed around him. The best anybody could think to ask was "How are you, Joe?" All waited for the reply, which was: "I feel good, good." The conversation died down, and "he" said, courageously, "I got to go dress, if you don't mind."

Then, in order to not go through the main crowd 50 yards away, Louis took a short cut through the bushes. A big, smiling fan said: "It's no use him trying to sneak through the bushes. They'll ambush him on the other side."

They did, and another circle grew around him, while "he" said he felt good. He got from the cottage to the dressing-room building in less than 15 minutes. It is nearly 70 yards.

The doctors looked over Louis before he got his fighting clothes on. Drs. William Walker and Vincent Nardiello, of the boxing commission. Louis, a restrained, mild-thinking man, had merely said he felt good, but Dr. Walker did not stop there. As the examination ended, he said: "He's in terrifically great shape. Reflexes strong, pulse 62, upon exercise to 71, returning to normal in 40 seconds."

That version of "feeling good" was proclaimed by Harry Mendel, who takes care of proclamations at Pompton Lakes on behalf of Mike Jacobs.

"He" had a blood pressure of 126 over 86, which, reduced to the more convenient three to two, sounds like good odds that "he" will live to Wednesday night all right, when the big production takes place in Yankee Stadium.

On the way to the ring, Louis answered a few questions. The main answer was this: "I know he won't make the fight. I got to make the fight. He's going to try to keep away. I got to go after him, that's all."

With his big headguard, that leaves the face open, the ears protected, and with face and arms shining with vaseline, Louis took on for his first sparring partner, Perk Daniels, an alert Negro from Chicago. (Looking up from ringside was a man who well could have used a headguard at some time or another. He was Freddie Mills, British heavyweight, belted out by Gus Lesnevich in London a while back. They make cauliflower ears bigger and better in England. Mills' left ear is the Rolls Royce of cauliflower ears). Thurs 6-13-46

Suddenly, there were sorrowful, surprised faces around the ringside, and even the Mohammedans from Newark nudged one another. Perk Daniels was poking the champion in the face almost at will, and getting not much banging in return. Daniels did one round, and jabbed Louis a half-dozen times. Louis missed a lot, and seemed slow.

Joe Louis (Conn)

Al Hoosman, another Negro, from Los Angeles, went two round He jabbed Louis often, and was not hurt in return. Jimmy Bell did tw rounds, and still the champion was ineffective. They weren't paying c on this affair under the trees at Pompton, but it scared the onlooker They were almost afraid to say it, but they did, to one another: "He dor look good, does he? Where's Joe Louis gone, the man we used to see, c course, this is only training, but . . ." and everything trailed off int guesses. A person could feel the odds changing in Conn's favor.

"He" had said he felt good, the doctors translated it into "terrificall great shape," but the crowd, watching the sparring, had it its way. . . "He don't look good."

And a man who had just flown in from Switzerland, by way c Paris, to send home pieces to the publication *Sport* in Zurich, said Lou didn't look good. The man, Charlie Keller, former fighter himself, ser word to Zurich of the goings-on at Pompton, in the ring under the tree And this being one world, they're saying over the coffee cups in Zuric tonight: "Louis didn't look good those six rounds the other afternoo Maybe Conn has a chance." We don't know how they say it in Swis

—SWIFTY

(*Pictures on page* 12.)

Looking Out From The Press Box

with **Jake Penland**

WOULD LOUIS THROW THE FIGHT?

Talk persists in many circles that Joe Louis plans to throw the June 19 fight with Billy Conn. The reasoning behind this is that Louis is head over heels in debt—to the government and to individuals—and that two fights with the colorful Conn will put his finances in the black again. However, if Joe should beat Conn next week Conn would be out of the picture and there isn't a challenger in sight who could help attract another $3,000,000 gate.

A columnist for a Negro newspaper discussed the possibility of Louis throwing the fight and being rematched with Conn in a few months. The writer expressed some fear that Louis would throw the fight, but he hoped Joe would be loyal to his race and to the sport that made him famous. "If he does lose, I hope it is because Conn is the better man," the writer concluded.

The tons of advance publicity on the fight indicates that Conn is in fine shape and ready to go, while Louis is slow and not yet at fighting form. Some observers regard this as a clever scheme sponsored by Promoter Mike Jacobs to build up Conn and play down Louis in order to increase the gate receipts. But Grantland Rice, probably the nation's foremost sports expert, argues that the simple facts are that Conn has worked himself into even better physical condition than in 1941, that he is bigger and stronger and has outworked and outtrained Louis by a margin greater than two to one. And he points out that Louis, at the age of 32, has found it much more difficult to get in shape than the younger and faster Conn.

One thing is certain: No one will be happier than Mike Jacobs if Conn does win next week. It would mean a third fight between the two and probably the biggest gate in the history of boxing.

Conn Clipped Often During Workout

Billy Flashes Speed, But Poreda Tags Him

By Bill Mardo   Daily Worker

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 12.—There was, as usual, mixed comment on Billy Conn's chances after the handsome challenger sparred six fast rounds under a hot sun which baked down on the outdoor ring here at Teddy Gleason's hotel.

This writer thought the Pittsburgh Kid was both good and bad. He showed to excellent advantage so long as he pedalled his speedy bike and stabbed away with that nifty left-hand. But whenever Billy tried to trade with his helpers, he invariably ran into enough grief to make manager Johnny Ray's sandy hair turn snow-white.

Thursday 6-13-46

Slightly sluggish after his two-day layoff, the cocky Conn nonetheless started at a fast pace against rotund Mickey McAvoy, the 240-pounder who led off the parade of three sparmates who tested Billy this afternoon before a capacity crowd.

New York

Conn opened up in high, and flicked his long left into McAvoy's face while circling to the right of the big-bellied veteran. But McAvoy, a surprisingly sharp puncher despite his comic appearance, just bore in and caught Conn with a left to the mouth, and a long overhand right to the jaw. Conn clinched on the ropes, banged away to McAvoy's well-girdled midriff and then moved away from his heavy helper. Two lefts to the button, followed in rapid-fire succession by a series of sharp hooks to the body were thrown by the speedy Pittsburgher as he fairly whirled around his sparmates. Flashing a lot of speed, the challenger kept sticking away with his talented left, feinted to the face and pegged to the body at the round's end. Thurs. 6-13-46

Conn's classiest showing came in his second session with McAvoy. Billy fairly flew around the ring, clicking time and again with snappy lefts to the face. He switched tactics for a second to move into his sparmate, but a neat flurry of McAvoy's punches to the jaw changed Conn's mind as he grabbed and held on. After firing away to the body in a clinch, Conn once more stepped on the gas and looked lovely as he darted in, out, and around McAvoy, all the while popping away with lovely lefts to the jaw and taking his helper's right-hand counters on the tip of his big left mitten.

"Time" was called and so ended a very impressive performance by the challenger—although it must be noted that McAvoy hadn't thrown too many punches in that second round. New York.

It was a much different story

for the two rounds Billy went against the tall, well-built Frankie Poreda. So long as he stayed on the run, Conn fared nicely, shifting from side to side, pecking his portsider into Poreda's well-flattened nose and generally giving a sweet boxing exhibition. Midway through the stanza, the sparring partner landed a scrapping left over Billy's eye and Conn tore into the kid. They both slugged away at each other's body, with Conn catching as much as he dished out. The two were still slugging to the inside as the first frame ended.

It was in the second session with Poreda that Pittsburgh's hopeful for the heavyweight crown looked pretty poor. Poreda moved in fast against the back-pedalling Conn and clipped him with three straight lefts to the face. Billy didn't like that, and promptly tore into his partner with crunching left hooks to the body. But Poreda lowered his head slightly and retaliated with his own savage bursts to Conn's midsection. For some strange reason, Billy preferred to stay on top of his man and bang away to the stomach.

What happened for the next solid minute won't go easy for those who fancy Conn as the next world's champion. With Billy shooting away in the inside, Poreda calmly stepped back and brought down two short rights to Conn's jaw. Still the challenger remained close and once more the sparmate pulled out of the clinch to fire three beautiful pot-shots to Conn's jaw. Again and again Poreda repeated this stunt and again and again Conn persisted in remaining inside—only to have his head snapped back by those clean four-inch clouts to his button. Poreda was extremely sharp, paying no heed to Conn's blows to the midriff, and being more than content to take that half-step backward, cock his right hand and blast away at the Pittsburgh Kid's chin.

It was a sad stanza for Conn and no doubt he was quite glad when it was over. He'd taken plenty of hell. The last two rounds saw Billy work with a completely unaggressive Mike Belluscio. There was little action, with Conn reverting to his cycling tactics and scoring often with sharp southpaw shots to the face.

After finishing up on the little and big bags and doing five minutes of calisthenics, Conn held the customary press gabfeast in his dressing room. With beads of sweat streaking down his dimpled cheecks, Conn told the scribes that he had felt a "little too slow today. . . . But I was punching goo..' Both Billy and trainer Freddy Fierro traced it to his Monday and Tuesday's inactivity.

Little Mickey Walker barged into the room, threw his arms around the challenger, and told him: "You'll be the next heavyweight champion of the world, Billy providing you don't slow up for even a second against Louis."

Which sounded like a pretty tall order to this observer.

Billy Conn Loafs; He's Ready Now

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 11 —(AP)— Except for his usual bitter complaint about the birds that vocalized around his cottage and set his city-trained nerves on edge, Billy Conn lazed through another placid day today.

For 48 hours now the finely conditioned challenger hasn't hit a lick either on the road or in the ring. Except for a fast-healing blister on one of his little toes, the Pittsburgh beauty could vlimb in with Joe Louis tomorrow, or tonight.

Billy Joos, the broken-nosed little trainer who has been handling Billy since the latter was a pugnacious kid of 13, beams when he talks about Conn's fitness for the climactic battle of his career.

"He's in the finest shape of his life right this minute," he declared. "All he needs to do is taper off gradually, maybe take off a couple more pounds so he'll enter the ring at an even 180.

"The best thing is that Billy has boxed himself into condition. Those 235 rounds he's boxed up here are what will win him the title. Louis thinks the other kind of work, bag-punching and that sort of stuff, are the most important, but not Billy."

Billy, it might be pointed out, thinks that Joe is missing the services of the late Jack Blackburn, the wise old trainer who taught him his ringcraft and handled him in all his fights except the last two before he entered the service.

"A good trainer like Blackburn or my Johnny Ray is mighty important," Conn said. "He can watch you and tell you a lot of things you might be doing wrong without knowing it, or things your opponent is doing that you haven't noticed.

"Blackburn knew all there was to know, and that helped Joe. I don't think they've got anybody like him now."

This Morning

—With Shirley Povich

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 9.—At the end of eight fast rounds with his sparring partners today, Billy Conn took on the fight-writing press in a 20-minute bout in his dressing room. He was punching straight with all his answers.

They asked him about that story out of Louis' camp, the one in which Louis said he knew he had Conn hurt with left hooks in the second and fifth rounds of their last fight, five years ago.

POVICH

"Louis is kidding himself and you, too," said Conn. "He never hurt me until the thirteenth round, and then it was curtains."

Did Conn mean that the first punch that hurt him was the right uppercut that knocked him out in the thirteenth?

"No, that wasn't the punch I'm talking about. He didn't hurt me until the thirteenth, when he banged me with a left hook. The uppercut came later. That finished it, but it was my own fault."

Was Conn meaning that he got hit with a sucker punch? How was it his own fault?

"I should have gone down from that left hook, and taken a count. Going down for nine is no worse than going down for one. I should a-gone down and then got up, and Louis would never have found me for the rest of the fight."

That was right, his interviewers agreed. The only time Conn went down was when he was knocked out for the full count.

"It seems like a fast count to me," said Conn, "but I'm not alibiing. I guess I was a sucker, at that. When he hurt me with that hook, I got mad and punched back like a fool, I guess. I was wide open when he uppercut me, and I don't blame him."

Did Conn share the general opinion that Joe Louis is a nice guy?

"You can say that over again. Sure, Joe's a nice guy. I ain't mad at him. I just want that title of his; that's all. He's had it a long time, now, and I'd like to have it."

What was Conn saying to Louis in those late rounds when Billy was doing the talking?

"I'm always talking when I'm fighting, but I didn't have much to say to Joe until the thirteenth. I knew I had him licked up to that point, and I couldn't resist the temptation to rib him up a bit. I can get plenty profane in there, I guess, but Joe's such a nice guy all I said when we came out for the thirteenth was 'Ya better start fightin', Joe.'"

Conn was reminded that Louis said something at that point. What was it that Louis said.

"All he said to me was, 'Yeah, I know.' That's the kind of a guy Joe is. A nice feller, and I'm not mad at him. If he had been somebody else, they'd have heard plenty."

Why did Conn let Frank Poreda, his sparring partner, cuff him around in the two rounds they'd just fought in the outdoor ring? Conn took a lot of stuff from Poreda, he was reminded.

"He outpointed me, I guess," said Conn. "There's one thing about Poreda. He's a better sparring partner than anybody Louis has got in his camp. But Poreda's in there to box two rounds with me every day. I'm in there training for a 15-round fight with Louis. Maybe that's the difference."

He was planning on a 15-round fight with Louis, Conn said, but it wasn't going 15 rounds if he could help it, he added.

"I'm going to set him up for a right hand the first chance I get," said Conn. "What's the sense of going 15 rounds if I see a chance to hurt Joe early? If it goes 15, all right, but Joe isn't the only guy who's trying for a knockout."

Obviously, he wasn't afraid of the champion, somebody said.

Hell, no! I ain't afraid of anybody if there's just two of us in that ring. And if he's lucky enough to put me down again, I'll get up. But maybe I'll put him down this time. I'm bigger, you know."

Conn was reminded that he was now 28—five years older than when they last fought.

"I'm 28, but look at Joe. He's an old man. He's 32. They tell me he isn't moving so good. I'm glad to hear that, because if he doesn't keep moving, I'm gonna have that title. If it goes the limit, I ought to be the new champion."

Why was Conn letting Poreda and his other sparring partners bull him around like they did, spinning him and backing him against the ropes?

"That's what Louis is gonna try, and I've been wanting to see how it feels. I let Poreda and the rest of 'em get away with it, but Joe won't find me if he wants to get too tough. If he does, he'll find me punching. I hit pretty good, too, sometimes."

Plans Joe Louis' Day

By Carl Lawrence

Plans for a gala Harlem parade in honor of heavyweight champion Joe Louis, with hundreds of school kids and youth club leaders participating, were about complete this week as hotel and night club operators began preparing for the greatest influx of visitors since the idea of vacationing in New York was figured out.

The parade, scheduled for next Wednesday afternoon—eight hours before Louis and Billy Conn meet in Yankee Stadium to decide the heavyweight boxing championship of the world, will be dedicated to the need of encouraging and inspiring thousands of underprivileged boys and girls in the Metropolitan area.

According to plans already filed with Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander, it will be sponsored by The Amsterdam News and the People of Harlem.

Publishers C. B. Powell and P. M. H. Savory and executives of the Amsterdam News got the project going after receiving thousands of requests from interested citizens and readers, who frequently inquired as to why Joe Louis had never been publicly honored for his efforts to improve race relations during the past 10 years.

As a result, next Wednesday will be known as Joe Louis Day in New York and the 100,000 visitors to Harlem can expect to see one of the most magnificent street demonstrations ever witnessed in this community.

Tentative plans call for starting the parade at 110th St., and Seventh Ave., proceeding up the historic thoroughfare to 145th St., then west on 145th to Bradhurst Ave. and Colonial Park where band leader Willie Bryant and other stars of stage and radio are expected to entertain thousands of boys and girls until 6 p. m.

The parade will probably get underway at 2 p. m. with the onetime heavyweight great Harry Wills as Grand Marshall or some other sports figure of equal prominence.

Invited to participate also are former heavyweight champions Gene Tunney and Jack Dempsey, baseball star Jackie Robinson, Tony Galento, Barney Ross, Sam Langford, Jack Johnson, Henry Armstrong, Beau Jack, Ray Robinson, Jimmy Braddock, Bob Montgomery, Mike Jacobs, the famous Madison Square Garden promoter, and a host of other sporting world greats.

Because of the traditional rules governing the champion after the weigh-in for such an important contest, it is doubtful if Joe will be able to view the demonstration in his honor.

Nevertheless, his mother, other members of the family from Detroit, Mrs. Marva Louis and baby Jacqueline are expected to see the parade from the official reviewing stand at the Hotel Theresa.

Some 125th St. business men and many merchants on Seventh Ave. are making plans to close their businesses for a couple of hours as a gesture of the esteem in which the champion is held by Harlemites.

"Why not', asked one department store executive, "isn't he one of us now? From what I understand, Joe's putting up his own restaurant over at Fifth and 125th."

Bird's Eye View of Some of the $100 Seats

Associated Press WIREPHOTO

ALL'S QUIET NOW—This is the way the diamond of Yankee Stadium looked yesterday as workmen transformed the site into an arena for tomorrow night's championship fight between Joe Louis and Billy Conn. Already in place are the ring, some of the folding ringside chairs, and the framework for the raised ringside area. P. S.—There's no truth to the rumor that Promoter Mike Jacobs will provide shuttle service to some of the $100 ringside seats

Look, Ma! No Arms

Stadium Men Come and Go, Putting Up the Century Row

By Bill Boni

New York, June 17 (AP).—Wearing a reasonably business-like expression, you, too, could have got into Yankee Stadium this afternoon, and sat in a hundred-buck seat. But the seat of your pants wouldn't have felt much different there.

The stadium, some 60 hours before the big fight, was a scene of orderly confusion. The three-tiered baseball stands were empty and the only guys in the bleachers were a bunch of workmen eating their lunch.

Everything went according to plan. When one big man wheeled a barrow up alongside the ring, there were three little men with him to unload, one for each keg of nails it carried. Close in around the ring, gangs of laborers were setting up folding chairs, while farther back iron workers were putting together the prefabricated aluminum flames for the raised ringside and others were laying sections of planking across the frames, on which chairs were to be set up.

6-Foot Hole in Infield

There was a gaping hole about 6 feet by 4 at the secnod-base point of the infield grass. This is a permanent installation, to handle the electric wiring connections for the ring, and is covered with a foot and a half of dirt the rest of the time.

The infield grass itself still was roped off. Col. Larry MacPhail, the Yankees' president, had ordered that it be kept clear until the very last moment, in order not to mess up any more than is absolutely necessary.

In the ring were Danny, grey-haired, stout and cheerful, and Walter, who was stouter and didn't say much around his stubby cigar. They have been rigging the ring lights for fights in Madison Square Garden and outdoors for some 20 years, but they were putting in something special this time—28 lights with No. 4 photoflood lamps, each the equivalent of a 1000-watt bulb (you probably use 40, 60 or -00 in your home). More light is needed this year for the television cameras.

10 Years Ago—Blooie

Harried Harry Markson, Mike Jacobs' publicity man, came wandering in from downtown and promptly disappeared in a welter of photographers anxious to get their Wednesday night seating arrangements fixed up. Just before vanishing, he pointed out that it was on the night of June 19 10 years ago that Louis was beaten for the last time—in his first meeting with Max Schmeling in this same ring.

Rubber-tired carts stacked with chairs were being hauled every which way, and here and there were pathetic little heaps of discarded chairs—thrown out because a slat was missing, or because a bent nail might prove provoking.

White string had been stretched in neat patterns across the outfield grass and the infield dirt, lines of demarcation for the sections of seats and the aisles between them. As a matter on which you might be curious, the man sitting in the front row, ringside, will be roughly 40 feet—14 paces—from the edge of the ring, with quite a few rows of newspapermen between him and the pugilists.

Three teen-age youngsters had taken advantage of the open gates and, after wandering around the ball field, finally came around and sat in the big-buck row.

One of them slid the seat of his pants back and forth a few times, then turned to his buddies and said:

"Gosh, a hundred bucks. They ain't even got arms."

'Ah Feel Swell', Champion Says

By OSCAR FRALEY

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 18.—(U.P.): The champ pronounced himself "fit and ready" tonight.

Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, winding up six weeks of work for his title defense against Billy Conn in Yankee stadium tomorrow night, didn't appear to have any doubt about the outcome.

For as the Brown Bomber stowed away his training gear and prepared to head for New York and his five-year date with destiny, he was singing at the top of his voice.

Joe was exuberant. He was in top mental condition. And, completing the picture, the Bomber apparently was in as good physical condition as he ever was before he marched off to war.

His final workout was accomplished in complete privacy. For the first time since he pitched camp here on the banks of the Ramapo river, the gates to the training quarters were closed to visitors.

Joe definitely wasn't on edge. He was in high spirits, more like a man going to a wedding instead of to a fight.

"Ah feel swell," he grinned.

Completing his workouts, Joe jogged six miles over the rolling roads in the vicinity of his camp in the morning.

Later, he went into the gymnasium and limbered up.

First on the program came five minutes of shadow boxing during which Joe demonstrated his old, gliding form. Then he skipped rope five minutes and took five more minutes of bending exercises on the mats.

Winding it up was 10 minutes of medicine ball work with Trainer George Nicholson, his old-time sparmate. They heaved the ball at each other as hard as they could and had a grand time doing it.

When it was over, this last bit of work before he steps into the ring to make his 22nd title defense, Joe broke into loud if unmelodic song. The glee outweighed the harmony.

Louis will stay here tonight, protected by six policemen who will keep well-wishers away, and will leave at 11 a. m. for the 12:30 p. m. weigh-in at Madison Square garden.

After that one look at his foe, Joe will go to the Theresa hotel in Harlem until time to leave for the stadium. That's when he'll get his second look at Billy the Kid and Joe says:

"I hope I won't have to look at him too long."

In this corner

Some Frothyfacts About Louis and Conn

By Bill Mardo ~~Daily Worker~~

Suppose we cull a few pertinent frothyfacts pertaining to Wednesday night's Big Fight:

Joe Louis, the greatest heavyweight of all time—and make no mistake about that—will be putting his title on the line for the 22nd time. . . . Something no other heavy king in history has ever matched . . . or even approached.

The world's heavyweight championship has never changed hands at a New York ballpark . . . which gives Mister Billy Conn another precedent to shoot for at Yankee Stadium. . . .

Louis has never been a prelimmer during his entire pro career. The champ has had 57 fights since leaving the simon-pures in 1934, and all have been main-events.

Billy Conn, on the other hand, has never been an amateur fighter. Every one of the Pittsburgh Kid's 60 fights have been for money. . . Man. 6-17-46

Among other honors racked up by Joe Louis during his amazing career is the honor of being the youngest man ever to win the heavyweight bauble. Joe was only 24 when he stiffened Jimmy Braddock. . . . Just how long he's held the crown can be gleaned from the little reminder that Louis celebrated his 32nd birthday five weeks ago. . . . Joe will be gunning for his 39th straight win Wednesday evening under the Stadium arc-lights.

The champion and the challenger have each been kayoed once. . . . Louis by Schmeling, and Conn by Louis. There have been only three scrappers whom both Louis and Conn faced. . . . Gus Dorazio, Al McCoy, and talented Bob Pastor. In case you don't remember: Louis stopped Dorazio in two, Conn kayoed Gus in eight; Louis starched McCoy in six, Conn outpointed Al in ten; the heavy champ won a ten-round decision over Pastor the first time out, and then kayoed him at Detroit in an 11-round return; and Conn scored a TKO over Pastor in the 13th.

Joe Louis' tremendous punching power stands out in bold relief when you remember that in his 57 fights as a pro, he's travelled only 301 rounds altogether. Which is an average of about five and one-third rounds per fight over his entire career thus far. New York

Pittsburgh has produced many great and near-great scrappers. Besides the challenger for Joe Louis' crown, there have come from the Smoky City such men as: Harry Greb, Frank Klaus, George Chip, Teddy Yarosz, Billy Soose—all of them former middleweight champions; Fritzie Zivic, onetime welter kind and Sammy Angott, the ex-lightweight titleholder; also Frank Moran, of the famed "Mary Ann" punch; Rube Ferns, Sailor Petroskey, Patsy Brannigan, Hugh Madole, Johnny Ray (Conn's peppery little manager), Buck Crouse, Cuddy DeMarco . . . and lot's more. Manley

And if you think the nickname "The Fighting Irish" is a misnomer, then suppose you take a gander at Conn's colleagues of the shamrock who also did a bit of handsome fisticuffing in their day: Ah yes, there was John L. Sullivan, Peter Maher, Ike Weir, Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, Tom Sharkey, Terry McGovern, Frankie Burns, Elbows McFadden, Frank Neil, Mike O'Dowd, Johnny Kilbane, Joe Lynch, Packy McFarland, Kid McPartland, Paddy Ryan, Jack McAuliffe, Jimmy Britt, Jim Corbett, Jim Slattery, Jack Britton, Harlem Tommy Murphy, Mike McTigue, Tommy Loughrin, Jimmy McLarnin, Jim Braddock. . . . 6-13-46

And that, my friends, is about all for today. Did somebody in the back-room just ask who's gonna win Wednesday night? So it's secrets you want two days ahead of time, is it?

Read Wednesday's Daily Worker. And there'll it be. For all to see.

Louis Weighs 208; Conn 182

Times-Dispatch

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 17—(AP)—Champion Joe Louis completed his training for the defense of his heavyweight title against Billy Conn today with a brisk four-round workout and after it was over he stepped on the scales and pushed the needle to 208 pounds. 6-18-46

Louis went two rounds with Leo Haywood, a light-heavyweight, and then finished with a pair against Jimmy Bell, who has worked out against Louis every day the champion has boxed since setting up camp.

He will limber up tomorrow but will remain in camp until Wednesday when he will motor to New York for the noon weighing-in. Richmond

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 17—(AP)—Challenger Billy Conn cut his final boxing drill down to two rounds today and then broke camp and left for New York, where he will remain until he enters the Yankee Stadium ring Wednesday night for his title clash with Joe Louis.

His two beats were against Sammy Schipani, Pittsburgh welterweight, and were intended mainly as a sharpener for his speed. The two rounds brought Conn's total of training boxing rounds to 281. At the end of the session the Pittsburgh dancing master weighed 182 pounds.

Conn will do some light limbering up work in a Manhattan gym tomorrow.

Eddie Joseph Seen Likely Referee, Giving Ring Same Cast as in 1941

Times-Dispatch

By Sid Feder

Associated Press Sports Writer

NEW YORK, June 17—Old Pa Knickerbocker's dressup suit began to come apart at the seams today as an invading army of fight fans hit town amid rumors that Wednesday's heavyweight championship revival meeting would see the same referee, as well as the same two fighters who put on the last ear-scrambling extravaganza five years ago. Jnls.

Both Joe Louis and Billy Conn wound up their training today, except for some mild muscle-loosening tomorrow, and with both of them ready for the call to the post, the chief talk centered around just who would be the third man in the ring at Yankee Stadium Wednesday night. And the word was that Eddie Joseph, a sturdy ex-welterweight of the late 'teens, with salt-and-pepper hair and a quiet way about him, would be "it" again, just as he was in '41, when Louis came from far back to flatten Billy in the thirteenth round. 6-18-46

Mostly, the guessing as to the identity of the arbiter for this close to $3,000,000 production has been done by a process of elimination. Up to now, the referee has generally been expected to come from a quartette of ex-fighters who've been wearing the gray flannel and black bow tie in rings around these parts quite somewhat lately, and State Athletic Chairman Eddie Egan doesn't deny it. Ruby Goldstein and Joseph, an engineer, have been out in front in the race, with ex-Lightweight Champion Benny Leonard and Frank Fullam, currently an athletic instructor, close behind.

Fullam May Be Referee

But a story naming Leonard definitely as the referee a couple of weeks ago is expected to react against the retired undefeated 135-poung king's chances. While Eagan admits he still has Goldstein under consideration, he points out that since Ruby was in the same Army athletic setup with Louis, and made an exhibition tour of Alaska with the bomber when they both were GI's, it probably "would be unfair to name him." As for Fullam, it has been noted that he has seen considerable arbitrating action in the past few weeks, which would indicate he is not being saved for the big show. Richmond

Neither fighter had any important "beef" against Joseph's handling of the fight the last time, although it is admitted that with two such classy clout artists as Sweet William and Joe the Jolter, all a referee has to do is keep out of their way when they go to work. Virginia

Each of them boxed four rounds today to put on the final touches to their training. Billy worked against Sammy Schipani, a swift welterweight from Pittsburgh, to sharpen up his speed, and Joe, after a six-mile road run, took on his regular sparmates. Sweet William finished with the remark that after the long two-month drilling grind, "the easy part comes now—all I have to do is meet Joe." Louis, looking for a quick night's work, promised that Billy "won't get away from me this time." This corner picks Conn to dethrone Louis in the bomber's twenty-second defense of the fight game's fanciest bauble.

Manhattan was like one huge bargain basement's sale of nylons. Every hotel in town was packed as the faithful poured in by the hundreds and the thousands. Empty linen closets and spare telephone booths looked like penthouse suites to the unfortunates with no place to bunk for the next two nights. 6-18-46 Jnls.

Restaurants, already "hurting" for raw materials, had the SRO signs out and swinging. The rope was up in every night club. Businessmen tell you the fight is bringing $8,000,000 in trade to the city.

As a result, Mike Jacobs was optimistic about the downpour of dollars into his rain barrels for Wednesday's walloping, although the sale lagged somewhat over the week end. Up to now nearly 80 per cent of the sale has been from out-of-town fans. Richmond

"We have over $2,000,000 in," he pointed out; "we're a cinch to go over $2,500,000. We're pretty sure of breaking the record ($2,658,660 for the second Dempsey-Tunney fight). And I'm not quitting yet on the hope of hitting $3,000,000." Virginia

Louis to Weigh 208

With Joe apparently going to come in at 208—two pounds under his announced intentions — and Billy tipping the beam at a pound or two over 180, which is large for him, the Forty-ninth Street betting shoppes reported a continued swing toward the Pittsburgh pretty boy by the smart money. However, although the action stepped up a bit today, they all were somewhat surprised that the betting "play" was far slower than expected, with the price now down to 5 to 11½ in Louis' favor.

Billy Conn's Come Far Since That First Fight for $2.50

Five long years of anxious waiting will be climaxed at the Yankee Stadium on the night of June 19 when Billy Conn, a kid off the streets of Pittsburgh, makes his second bid for fistic fame and fortune by meeting the great Joe Louis for the world heavyweight title.

It is a bigger, stronger, more mentally alert, and more matured young man who will face Louis this time. William David Conn's four years in the Army have served him well. He is still the cocky and self-assured battler he always was but his body has filled out in the right places and, as he puts it himself, "I've got a lot more sense."

He has toned down from the close to 200 pounds which he weighed when he came out of the Army to a razor sharp 180. His neck is a full inch thicker and his chest and shoulders have thickened proportionately.

Conn worked steadily at Greenwood Lake, N. J., for nine weeks in preparation for this Louis fight. His mental attitude for it is perfect.

Billy has been surrounded at camp by his two trainers, Freddie Fierro and Billy Joos; his manager, Johnny Ray; his business manager, Milton Jaffe, and a half dozen crack sparring partners, including his younger brother, Jackie.

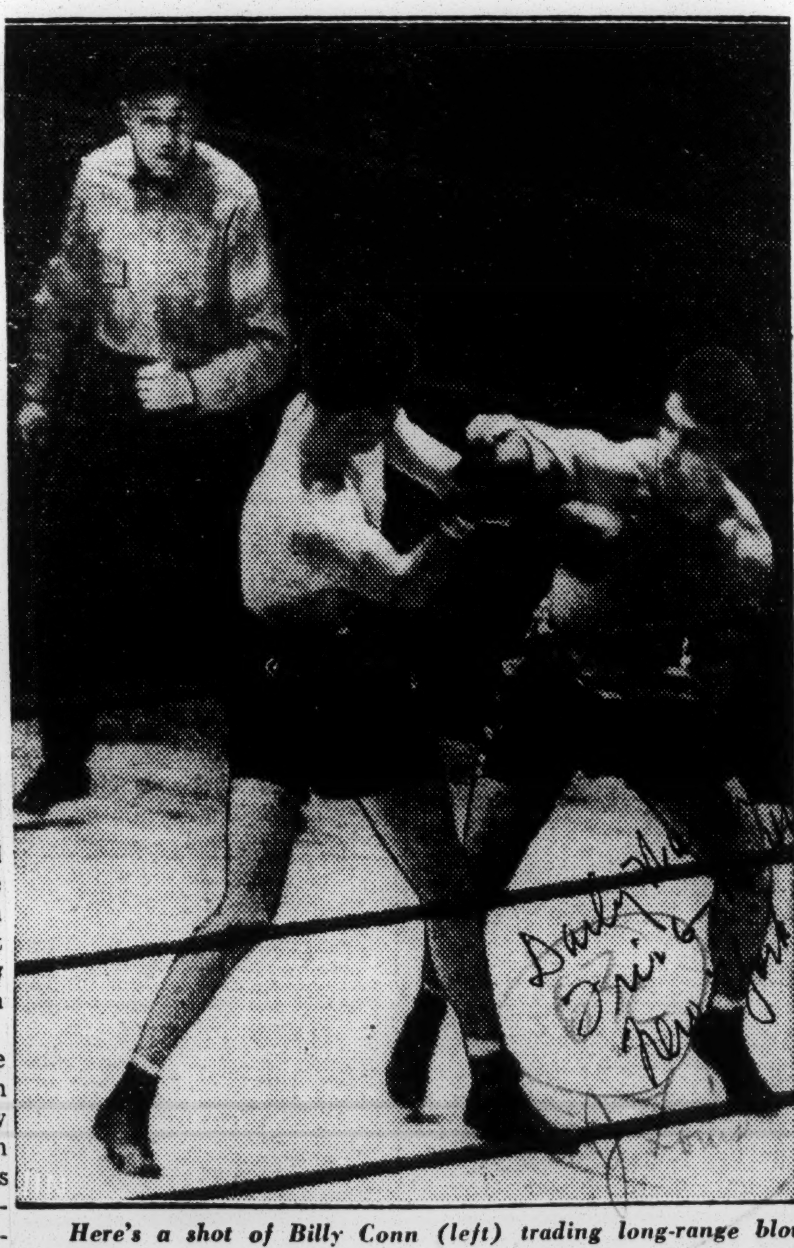
The drama behind the struggle of Billy Conn and Johnny Ray to reach the top is worth a small novel on its own. Briefly, Johnny found Billy fighting in the streets of the East Liberty section of Pittsburgh and, having been quite a lightweight himself a quarter century ago, saw the possibilities of making the tough young man a world champion.

He trained Billy for a long time at his gym in Pittsburgh, then started him off on his career. Billy earned $2.50 and got a licking in his first fight—he never boxed as an amateur—against some now forgotten lightweight in a West Virginia hamlet.

But Billy learned fast, developed rapidly. He kept putting on weight and soon moved into the middleweight division where he triumphed over such opposition as Young Corbett 3d, Teddy Yarosz, Solly Krieger, and Fred Apostoli. His superb boxing skill finally brought him an opportunity to box for the world light-heavyweight title and Billy came through by defeating Melio Bettina for the 175-pound division crown in 1939.

As he approaches his second fight with Louis, Conn realizes that this will probably be his last opportunity to win the most coveted crown in pugilism. He doesn't expect to fail.

WHEN HE BEAT BETTINA FOR LIGHT-HEAVY TITLE



Here's a shot of Billy Conn (left) trading long-range blows with Melio Bettina that night back in 1939 when Conn copped the light-heavyweight title.

Conn Flashy; Louis Slow In Workouts

POMPTON LAKES, N. J. — Joe Louis, the world heavyweight champion who meets Billy Conn of Pittsburgh the second time on June 19, turned loose some of his power Sunday but left himself open enough to be sort of an easy target for his sparring partners.

Joe Louis

With two more weeks to go before the fight with Conn there was much concern about Louis' sluggishness. But there were those who remember Louis didn't look so hot in training for his second bout with Max Schmeling.

LOUIS BOXED SIX ROUNDS indoors Sunday. He put Bell on the canvas with a short left hook to the midsection. George Fitch had little trouble in breaking through the champion's defense.

Sam Langford, the once great fighter whom all the heavyweight champions refused to meet, visited the camp recently. Sam, now totally blind, believes Louis will win.

"I like a puncher," Langford told his hearers. "It takes a million punches to win a fight by a decision but just one to win one by a knockout."

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J. — Billy Conn, challenger for Joe Louis' world heavyweight title on June 19, in Yankee stadium, New York City, went through a fast performance here Sunday as he outboxed three sparring partners in six rounds. The Pittsburgher looked fast but there were those at the camp who believed Conn was being overtrained in an effort to please visitors and create a favorable impression.

It was the first time in less than seven days that Conn has boxed less than eight rounds.

* * *

JACKIE CONN, Billy's brother, absorbed numerous left hooks and rights during the first two rounds. Jimmy Smith and Mickey Bellusco took their turns.

Trainer Bill Joos said the four-year layoff has not hampered Conn's speed and that he is in just as good physical condition for this fight as he was in the 1941 battle against Louis.

Trainer Laughs at Report Champ Not in Shape, Must Finish Conn Early to Win

POMPTON LAKES, N.J. — "Joe Louis is training for two different kinds of fights here and he will be in perfect condition for either of them," said Manny Seamon after the champion had finished his workout here Sunday in preparation for his title defense against Billy Conn at the Yankee Stadium, June 19.

"Joe is training to win by a knockout, in the first couple of rounds, if he can get his knockout punch over, and he is also conditioning himself to go fifteen rounds, if it is necessary to go that long to win the fight," Manny added.

Legs Excellent

"Joe's legs are in excellent condition and so is his wind. He did a lot of road work at West Baden and has been on the roads every day since we arrived here. His road work has advanced so far that now I have him avoiding hills. It will be a cinch for him to enter the ring between 208 and 210 pounds.

"It makes me laugh to read and hear people say that Louis will have to win in a hurry, or not at all. Just the other day I noticed an opinion that if Conn could hold on for six rounds, Louis would tire and Conn would come on to take the title.

"Never believe anything like that for as long as a minute. Joe will be ready to go at top speed all the way, if he can't end the fight sooner. I have been with him for nine years now, except for the time he was in the Army, and I think I know what he can do.

"Joe is getting into condition according to a schedule we mapped out last winter. We followed a fixed program though it can always be changed. Right now I'd say he's at the proper pitch for this stage of the fight. I don't hesitate to say that he will be at his peak on the night of June 19."

Ray Arcel Picks Louis

By United Press

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 10.—Ray "The Meatman" Arcel, the trainer who studied Joe Louis from the wrong corner for 11 years, today picked him to knock out Billy Conn, after watching the champion spar eight rounds before more than 5000 spectators—one of the largest crowds ever to attend a training camp.

Arcel, known as "the Meatman" because he dragged Louis' victims to their corners 11 times, kept his attention fixed on the champion today despite disturbing influences, such as the collapse of a small stand that injured four spectators slightly, and the unprecedented jam about the outdoor ring.

Arcel smacked his lips in satisfaction when he saw Joe open up on speedy Jimmy Bell, a 185-pounder from Washington, D. C. Arcel looked ready to step into the ring and drag Bell to his corner in the second round as Joe staggered him with a left hook to the chin and then "put him out on his feet" with a series of head hooks.

Bell, stunned and helpless, would have fallen to the canvas, had not Joe held him up in a clinch, refraining from hitting him again.

Louis, now at his training peak looked the "sharpest" since he began conditioning for the June 19 fight.

"Don't let anybody kid you about Joe's condition," Arcel said. "He is in surprisingly good shape, considering his long lay-off from the ring. This is the second time I have watched him box. He has improved remarkably since I saw him two weeks ago. Yes, I've watched Conn, too. Billy is in fine shape. But Louis will knock him out within 10 rounds. His punching power will decide the fight—particularly his punches to the body."

LOUIS BLOWS JOLT SPARRING MATES

But Champion Continues to Be Easy Target—Conn Displays Speed in 6-Round Drill

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 2 (AP)—Joe Louis displayed some of his formidable punching ability today but the heavyweight champion also continues to be an easy target for his sparring partners.

With little more than two weeks to go for his title defense against Billy Conn, there was some concern in the Brown Bomber's camp over his sluggishness and vulnerability.

Louis went six rounds indoors this afternoon.

Taking on Jimmy Bell for one round, the champion dropped his partner with a short left to the body. Georgie Fitch, however, found Louis pretty easy to hit in his one-round drill.

Lanky Al Hoosman worked for two frames and in the last session Louis walloped him with a left hook that lifted the Los Angeles battler right off the floor. Perk Daniels went the final two rounds and he hit the champion pretty often. Louis, in a good humor, allowed Daniels a lot of liberty.

The Bomber will stay out of the ring tomorrow but will resume boxing Tuesday.

Fast Workout Indoors

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 2 (AP)—Billy Conn gave another sparkling training camp performance today as he belabored three sparring partners in a six-round indoor workout.

Jackie Conn was his first victim and Bill didn't show any partiality to his brother, hitting Jim with jabs and hooks for most of their two heats. Jimmy Smith and Mickey Belluscio followed in two-round stints.

It was the first time in more than a week that Conn boxed less than eight rounds. The challenger is scheduled to resume ring work Tuesday.

THE HORIZON

A Mere Comment on Some of The Things That Could Be Whispered in Ear of Joe Louis

By P. L. PRATTIS

IF we should happen to have a new heavyweight champion the night of June 19, are you prepared to accept the change without a gulp? Or are you convinced that the bronze prizefighter who can do no wrong just must win? Maybe it would be wise for us to turn a few things over in our minds at this time. That tongue-in-cheek, stick-him-here-and-see-him-jump sports chronicler and conjecturer, Wendell Smith, has already talked through with Mr. Louis's present Edgar Bergen, Marshall Miles, the wise guy's slant that Joe may lose the coming fight. Of course (and this is strange), nobody thinks the pride of his race has a chance to lose through any merit possessed by Mr. Conn. If the fight is on the so-called up-and-up, Joe has only to make up his mind what round he chooses to dispose of the younger man and polish him off with the punch he has selected. But there is a school of thought which is rather ashamed to be caught conjecturing the outcome of these matters on the basis of pure merit; that is, strength and skill in the ring. They interpret a performer in their own base terms or the base terms which they attribute to the humanity which they hold in low esteem.

Mr. Prattis

Thus there are many persons who have already shrewdly (?) concluded that Mr. Louis is going to lose because someone is going to prove to him that it will be smarter to lose than to win.

Would you like to take a glimpse at their reasoning as committed to memory by a commentator not nearly so smart as they?

HERE'S how the dope runs. There are two big summer months for fighting if the same two men are to do the fighting. Those months are June and September. Two prima donnas can stage a show in June, take time out for living, and convince their public that they're ready for another first-rate performance in September. As a matter of fact, the public does not care whether the performance is first rate. Idolatry covers many sins. But if the same two men are to fight in June and September, the public must be persuaded to believe that the one who lost in June has a chance to win in September. Then you have something.

Now the state of hero worship is such that there are many persons who believe that Joe Louis can always win in September if he loses in June. What did he do to Schmeling? All right, let's get into this thing. Suppose somebody says to Joe: "Joe, we know you don't know nuthin' about Alexander, but if you was to whip Conn in June, you'd be just like Alexander. He was younger than you, only twenty-nine, when he looked around and found he had no more worlds to conquer. Well, if you whipped Conn, who else could you fight? That's not sayin' that there might not be guys who would give you a good fight, sure, but what we mean is this, who could draw at the gate? You gotta make some money, you know that, and you can't make money fightin' guys the public ain't interested in. You gotta fight somebody like Conn.

"Now the thing to do, Joe, is to drop this thing to Conn in June. We're all your friends. Then it'll be fixed up for you two guys to fight again in September. Then we'll make Conn agree to drop the title back to you and give him another chance next year. That way, you see, you can share in two big gates in this one year, the both of you. But if you beat Conn in June nobody would pay to see you whip him a third time and there's nobody else for you to fight. Suppose you draw two million in June. You could draw another two million in September with you as the challenger. That's four million. You can see the point, can't you Joe?"

TRULY, those of us who are proud of Joe and his symbolic usefulness are hopeful that he can't see the point, will never see it. We hope he has enough money not to be lured into making more money by entering into a deal to deceive and cheat the public which admires him. Such deals are usually exposed in the long run and the confederates held up to public condemnation. Most of Joe is on the good side as he moves into this fight and most of Joe ought to stay on the good side.

It is said that Cardinal Spellman has wirtten an article for the American Magazine for July about Joe Louis. The chances are that the Cardinal is writing about what Joe has meant to his people and to his country. I would hate to see the Cardinal and all the other people who believe in Joe, sold short. I hope if he loses he does so because he can't win. I hope and believe he's too dumb and too honest to be smart.

P.S.—you can't win in September, Joseph, if Conn is on his feet at the end of the fight.

Conn Nearly To Perfection

Rough Spots Rubbed; Weight 182; Is Fast

By WALTER ST. DENNIS

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J. — Seven weeks ago, Billy Conn, after having the rough spots rubbed off him following his sojourn in the Army, came here to finish training for his championship bout with Joe Louis in the Yankee Stadium on June 19. Now, four weeks before the fight, Billy Conn is almost at fight-day perfection.

Conn has worked hard and diligently for the big event of his life since he began preliminary training at Hot Springs on Jan. 2. Then he did light work in Pittsburgh and finally came to Teddy Gleason's ideal training camp. He's had but a few days off since he arrived here, once for about a week with a cut thumb and other days just for a rest.

When he came out of the Army he weighed 195 pounds and at the last weighing-in he showed 186 3-4 on the scales. He's anxious to stick around that mark until a few days before the fight and then will taper down to about 180 pounds and maybe a few more. But not over 182.

* * *

HIS FINE CONDITION is reflected in his action. He has obtained a fine set of boxing mates as any fighter could ask;—Mickey McAvoy, Jim Neville, Frank Poreda, Mickey Bellusio, Jim Smith and until a few days ago had Martin Clark, who quit under the strain of the hard work the Pittsburgher was handing out. They are all big ones, none hitting below the 200-pound mark. They have been toys in the hands of the cleverest of all big men. All can hit, as heavyweights should, but few have been able to land on the elusive Conn.

Billy is indeed brilliant in his boxing. His skill is unequalled by any modern ringman. And, with it all he has developed a punch that is much above the one he displayed in the 79 or 80 battles he has had during his career.

'Louis Will Tire', Says Doctor

Commission Medico Finds Champ's Blood Pressure High After Work

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 11 (UP)—Dr. Vincent Nardiello, a physician of the New York Boxing Commission, predicted today that Joe Louis would tire "more quickly than expected" in his title defense against Billy Conn.

The doctor made this prediction after a thorough examination of the champion before and after his six rounds of sparring with four mates at the self-admitted "peak" of condition.

Nardiello, who has examined thousands of fighters for the commission during the past 14 years, exclaimed that Joe's blood pressure "went too high" for the amount of work he did in the outdoor ring this afternoon.

NOT SO GOOD

He said he could not remember any previous principal in a heavyweight title bout showing such an unusual increase in pressure.

"I do not mean that there is anything wrong physically with Louis," he said. "I mean that his fighting condition is not as good as I had expected it to be."

The physician explained technically that before Louis began his workout his pressure was "126 over 86—a normal difference of 40," but that after the workout his pressure had gone to "160 over 80—an abnormal difference of 80."

If Louis had time to do considerably more hard work before the fight, the pressure condition might be changed, Nardiello said.

When reporters quoted Joe as saying today, "I'm at my peak, and I'll taper off from now on," the doctor shook his head and predicted that Joe would tire.

Nardiello also was critical of the champion's "reflexes" in the ring. He said Joe didn't look as "sharp" as expected of a man who had been grooming for nearly eight months. He pointed out that Louis was unexpectedly slow with his counter punches.

The doctor, a small, dapper, dark-haired man in his middle 40's, who wears pince-nez glasses and a small mustachio, made a memorable prediction in 1936, after examining Louis and Max Schmeling before their first fight. He predicted that Schmeling would knock out Joe, which he did.

Dr. William H. Walker, another boxing commission physician who participated in the examination, said he thought Joe was in good condition and that his reflexes seemed sharp.

"Naturally his condition is not quite as good as before the war," he said.

Conn-Louis Gate to Fall Far Under 3 Million

A guy who made a big mistake—a guy with the face of a choir boy and the fighting spirit of a hoodlum—goes after the world's heavyweight championship for the second time at the Yankee Stadium tonight.

Exactly five years and one day since he pulled the classic "boner" of his pugilistic life, Pittsburgh Billy Conn will climb into the ring again tonight to try and wrest the richest crown in pugilism from the kinky brow of Champion Joe Louis.

No matter where you went around the town yesterday all you heard was talk of the "big fight." In hotels, seething with excitement, in bars, even on the subways the No. 1 topic of discussion was: Can Billy the Kid do it this time or will Louis, one of the real "greats" in ring history, run to form and belt out the handsome Irish kid, as he has so many opponents imprudent enough to go against him in a return match?

Gate Under 3 Million

Promoter Mike Jacobs would not estimate just how big the gate would go, but it seems agreed in most informed circles that the gross will not hit the $3,000,000 mark so optimistically predicted by many sports "experts."

From this corner it would appear a gate of $2,225,000 would be more accurate. General admission seats will be placed on sale at $5 a copy at 6 p.m. (EDT) today with the main event scheduled for approximately 10 p.m. (EDT).

A crowd of about 65,000 is expected to watch Willie and Joe attempt to take each other apart. A special ringside section has been installed in the Stadium and about 15,000 fans who could afford $100 per ducat will be among the privileged who will get a close-up view of the proceedings.

Conn will enter the ring approximately a 13-5 underdog. The challenger was a 3-1 underdog in the early betting, but thanks to some exceptionally high-pressure ballyhoo, the price dropped to 11-5. A wave of "late" Louis money is expected today and this evening and the price should soar before ring time.

Conn Brushed Off

Louis loafed at Pompton Lakes, N. J., yesterday and Conn fumed in New York at an unexpected "brush-off" by the management of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company gymnasium on 24th Street. Willie was supposed to work out there yesterday, but just before noon he was told the management didn't want any "prize fighters or newspapermen around, as they were not interested in any publicity."

Conn didn't exactly take kindly to this attitude and promptly cancelled a $60,000 life insurance policy he recently had taken out with the firm. His brother, Jackie, said, Billy had a couple of other policies on his children, William David, Jr. and Timothy, and planned to cancel those as well.

Billy limbered up with 10 rounds at the New York Athletic Club gym and spent the night at the home of a friend in town. He was cocky, confident and looked in great physical shape. Trainers Billy Joos and Freddy Fierro said Billy tipped the scales at 182 pounds when he completed work and would be about 183 or 184 when he and the champ weigh in at noon today at Madison Square Garden.

Louis is expected to weigh close to 210, about 11 pounds more than he did in his first meeting with Billy in '41.

The majority of fistic seers think Louis will make Conn his 22d straight victim. Louis, though somewhat apathetic in his early drills, looked very sharp and ready in his final drill at Pompton Lakes Sunday and has the punch.

Conn has the speed, four years in youth, and the determination. Whether Billy or Joe suffered most from their four odd-years in the Army is something that will not be known till the first bell sends them on their way.

Conn re-emphasized yesterday that he would not repeat the biggest mistake he made in his young life, namely, losing his head as he did in the '41 fight. At that time, with a meager but admitted edge in the point scoring, Billy got reckless, disobeyed his manager's instructions, and tried to knock Louis out.

The champ, stung into action by the realization he was about to lose the title he won from Jimmy Braddock in 1937, came back with a thunderous assault that ended only when Conn lay dazed, battered, and completely beaten on the blood-stained canvas floor.

Reporters invariably brought this livid memory to Conn's attention throughout the final days of his training at Greenwood Lake, and Billy's answer was always the same: "I won't lose my head again," he'd say. "That's a big ball park and I know where I'll wind up if I do."

There have been a lot of rumors about the choice of a referee for this, the most "talked" of heavyweight bout since the Louis-Schmeling return match in '38. Benny Leonard, Ruby Goldstein, Frank Fullam, and Billy Cavanagh are the four men believed in a position to get the nod from Boxing Commissioner Eddie Eagan, with Leonard rated the possible choice.

If the weatherman gets tough and it rains, the fight will be held tomorrow night. Louis will take down 40 per cent of the net (approx. $890,000) and Billy 20 per cent (approx. $445,000) for the evening's work.

Nice work, if you can get it.

Champion 11-5 Choice Of Bettors

By SID FEDER

NEW YORK, June 17—(AP)—Old Pa Knickerbocker's dress-up suit began to come apart at the seams Monday as an invading army of fight fans hit town amid rumors that Wednesday's heavyweight championship revival meeting would see the same referee, as well as the same two fighters who put on the last ear-scrambling extravaganza five years ago.

Both Joe Louis and Billy Conn wound up their training Monday, except for some mild muscle-loosening Tuesday, and with both of them ready for the call to the post. The chief talk centered around just who would be the third man in the ring at Yankee Stadium Wednesday night. And the word was that Eddie Joseph, a sturdy ex-welterweight of the late 'teens with salt-and-pepper hair and a quiet way about him, would be "it" again, just as he was in '41 when Louis came from far back to flatten Billy in the thirteenth round.

Mostly, the guessing as to the identity of the arbiter for this close-to-$3,000,000 production has been done by a process of elimination. Up to now, the referee has generally been expected to come from a quartet of ex-fighters who have been wearing the gray flannel and black bow tie in rings around these parts quite somewhat lately, and State Athletic Commission Chairman Eddie Eagan doesn't deny it. Ruby Goldstein, the one-time "Gem of the Ghetto," and Joseph, an Engineer, have been out in front in the race, with ex-Welterweight Champion Benny Leonard and Frank Fullam, currently an athletic instructor close behind.

LEONARD CHANCES HURT

But a story naming Leonard definitely as the referee a couple of weeks ago is expected to react against the retired undefeated 135-pound king's chances. While Eagan admits he still has Goldstein under consideration, he points out that since Ruby was in the same Army athletic set-up with Louis, and made an exhibition tour of Alaska with the BOMBER when they both were GIs, it probably "would be unfair to name him." As for Fullam, it has been noted that he has seen considerable arbitrating action in the past few weeks, which would indicate he is not being saved for the big show.

Neither fighter had any important "beef" against Joseph's handling of the fight the last time, although it is admitted that with two such classy clout artists as Sweet William and Joe the Jolter all a referee has to do is keep out of their way when they go to work.

Each of them boxed four rounds Monday to put on the final touches to their training. Billy worked against Sammy Schipani, a swift welterweight from Pittsburgh to sharpen up his speed, and Joe, after a six-mile road run, took on his regular sparmates. Sweet William finished with the remark that after the long two-month drilling grind, "the easy part comes now—all I have to do is meet Joe." Louis, looking for a quick night's work, promised that Billy "won't get away from me this time." This corner picks Conn to dethrone Louis in the Bomber's 22nd defense of the fight-game's fanciest bauble.

NEW YORK JAMMED

Manhattan was like one huge bargain basement sale of nylons. Every hotel in town was packed as the faithful poured in by the hundreds and the thousands. Empty linen closets and spare telephone booths looked like penthouse suites to the unfortunates with no place to bunk for the next two nights.

Punching The Bag . . .

By WENDELL SMITH

AT POMPTON LAKES—When Tami Mauriello stopped Bruce Woodcock in the fifth round at Madison Square Garden Friday night, Louis turned to his bodyguard sitting next to him, George Webber, and said rather disgustedly: "Well, there's goes my trip to London . . . Mike Jacobs was telling the Champ about a famous movie star who was protesting because the tickets he had purchased called for ringside seats in the fourth row. "What in the world does he want," Louis asked quickly, "my seat!" . . . Bob Montgomery, looking like a page from Esquire, watched Saturday's workout and then predicted that Louis will win by a knockout . . . Billy Rowe of The Courier is now on the Twentieth Century Sporting Club's publicity staff . . . It's going to cost $100,000 to construct the temporary field stands for the fight . . . Tickets sales are so brisk that members of the fistic mob predict the fight will top three million dollars . . . Mrs. Teddy Horne, wife of Pittsburgh's Teddy Horne, arrived in town this week and purchased $750 worth of ringside seats. Teddy is movie star Lena Horne's daddy . . . Joe's sparring partners get $25 per round.

The contractors who are building the new "Joe Louis Restaurant" on 125th Street are working frantically, trying to have it completed by June 19. The same firm built Jack Dempsey's famous eatery on Broadway. It will have a special five-room apartment on the second floor for the Brown Bomber . . . . The head protector Joe has been wearing during his drills fits poorly. It kept slipping down over his eyes lats Thursday, so he took it off and continued to spar without it, much to the consternation of Trainer Manny Seaman and Manager Marshall Miles. They figured, with justification, that a cut or butt in the vicinity of the eyes might well cost the champion a million dollars . . . Harry Markson who handles the press for Mike Jacobs has received requests for press seats from as far as away as Africa . . . Louis reads the sports pages avidly each day to see what Jackie Robinson is doing with the Montreal baseball club . . . Larry Amadee, famous Chicago trainer, will assist Manny Seaman in Louis' corner the night of the fight. He is due to arrive here about a week before the big battle . . . . The Champion figures on weighing about 205 the night of the fight. He was down to 212 this week.

Louis said after Sunday's workout that he felt fine. "I think I'm coming along just fine," he said. "I'm losing that weight I wanted to get off and I'm beginning to feel like my old self again."

The fact that he is beginning to feel like his "old self" again is encouraging to Louis' faithful followers who were here in droves Sunday. However, the fact still remains that he isn't his "old self" at the present time.

He isn't the devastating deadly puncher that he used to be. Nor is he as fast afoot and as cagey as in days of yore. Whether or not he can regain that old perfect form remains to be seen.

Conn, Louis End Training For Fight

Joe Louis and Billy Conn have wound up their training chores and nothing remains between now and tomorrow night but talk—but there should be plenty of that.

The champion finished up yesterday with four rounds of boxing, two with George Hayworth and two with Jim Bell. His left appeared very sharp. Joe was as calm as usual and casually expressed the hope that he would end matters in rapid fashion.

Challenger Billy Conn finished up with two rounds against Sammy Schipani, a welter, and will work out lightly today at the Metropolitan Life Insurance gym, where some observers feel he should also stop off for a policy.

Different Styles

The two fighters have gone about their training in quite different styles. Conn, working with somewhat inferior sparring partners, has been going at top speed at Greenwood Lake almost since the tents were first pitched up there. He has impressed many of the visitors at his camp and is easily leading the poll of celebrities on the probable winner.

Louis adhered to a strict program

He seems to be headed in that direction but slowly, very slowly.

throughout his work at Pompton Lakes designed to bring him up to form gradually. He has boxed much less than Conn and has expended many rounds on defense against specific types of punch which the flashy challenger can be expected to use.

Mike Jacobs, who figured to have a tough counting bout in which he was going to attempt to add up $3,000,000, seems to have a somewhat shorter contest ahead of him.

Most estimates of the handle now place it at a shade over $2,000,000, still enough to make the tax people very happy indeed. "That $2,000,000 is in the safe now and some chumps are calling this a 'bust,'" laughed Mike yesterday.

Late Entrance

Manager Johnny Ray is expected to ask that Conn be allowed to enter the ring after all the celebrities have been introduced and after Harry Balogh has outlined the next few "programs of pugilistic endeavor" scheduled for the Garden.

The idea is that Conn is a slow beginner and Ray wants him to spring into the ring still hot from a half hour or so of shadow boxing in his dressing room. The request will be made after tomorrow's weighing in and the Louis camp has not so far indicated what attitude they are going to take about the plea. In his present state of calm Louis is likely to take a nap in his corner while all the introducing is being done.

It is figured that all the business of getting ready for the fight has cost in the neighborhood of $50,000 per camp which is a lot of money for a trip to the country. Both boys are now eager to find out whether it was worth it.

Worst Day Of Training For Champ

Doctors Say He's Perfect

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 11—(AP)—The official doctors looked over Joe Louis today and decided he was a pretty fair piece of fighting machinery. But some 1,000 folks who saw the Bomber go through a six-round workout got the impression that the medicine men should have told Joe's sparmates about it.

Because, while Joe has looked poor in some of his workouts up to now since he opened his training camp here May 4, today he was so far off his flailing form of past years that his four sparmates practically took a lease on him. Although he levelled at his punch-absorbers, he managed to land less than half a dozen shots that could be construed as firecrackers with the fuses lit.

Doctors Pronounce Him "Terrific"

It was by all odds Joe's poorest showing since he began to approach his peak in the past couple of weeks for his nose-mashing get-together with Billy Conn in Yankee Stadium a week from tomorrow. The way Al Hoosman, Perk Daniel, Jimmy Bell and George Fitch took charge of him in the course of the proceedings came as even more of a shock, since the drill was put on only a few minutes after two New York State Athletic Commission physicians had put him through his paces and described his condition as "terrific."

"He is in splendid condition," Doctors William Walker and Vincent Nardiello reported officially. "His reflexes are quite sharp. His pulse was 62 on exercise and returned to normal in 40 seconds. His heart sounds perfectly regular, with good muscular quality."

"And he could go into the fight today," Nardiello added.

Joe scaled 214 after his one-day vacation from work, and repeated that he'll be down to 210 to meet Billy.

Off his give-and-take today, he's going to need every ounce of it. The four sparmates pitched what amounted to a double-header of left hands at him, particularly the jab variety. Hoosman, lanky, fast Californian, moved from side to side, much as Conn does, and Joe showed his old failing of not being able to "set" himself to punch when the party of the second part acted up like that. When Al had finished his day's work it was unanimously agreed he'd won two rounds from Joe.

Bomber Finally Explodes

Bell, a 180-pounder from Washington, not only peppered him with lefts for two rounds, but took liberties with his right, bouncing it off Joe's whiskers several times. It was against Bell that Joe finally got his sights leveled and connected with a hook and two rights that shook Jimmy down to his size 12's.

Daniels worked Joe over with a hook, and wound up with a bloody nose—the second blood to be spilled in this camp. The first crimson came from Joe's nose the day he began sparring sessions.

Joe may have lifted the lid on a couple of his plans to entertain Conn next week during the drill. One was a tendency to punch more frequently than usual to the body, which Barney Ross explained may be the result of noting that there's a long way between Bill's hips and shoulders. The other way was to carry the fight forward to his sparmates, trying to slide under their lefts. This didn't work out too well.

Sparring Mate Tells On Bomber

BY SID FEDER

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 12—(AP)—You'd imagine a fighter would think once or twice before criticizing Joe Louis' fighting skill, especially when he's a sparring partner earning his coffee and cakes letting Joe pot-shot at him, thereby giving the Bomber a daily chance to ram his words right back where they came from.

Yet, Al Hoosman, a lean stringbean kind of walloper out of Waterloo, Iowa, not only speaks his piece, but actually takes his life in his hands going into the ring with Joe—and then deliberately proves what he says. Maybe it's the influence of the late Jimmy Johnston, who managed Al and who was never known to use two words when a thousand would do.

Anyway, Al's observations about what is wrong with Joe at the moment—largely that he's making mistakes in the ring, among them that he tips an opponent off when he's ready to let go his big punch—were more or less borne out by a New York State Athletic Commission physician yesterday.

Dr. Vincent Nardiello examined Joe before what was the worst workout of his training drill for Billy Conn June 19 and said Louis was ready to fight today. Then he gave Joe the double-O again, after the work, and did an about face. This is what he said the second time around:

"Joe's blood pressure went too high during the workout, indicating he might tire at 15 pounds. He wasn't sharp, particularly with his counter-punching. Frankly, he wasn't as good as I expected him to be. Of course, all this could be overcome with a few days more training, and he has until next Wednesday."

Hoosman has taken charge of Joe in the ring several times during the champion's training drills up here for his fight with Conn a week from tonight. But he never "owned" the Bomber like he did yesterday, when he was the boss through two entire rounds—a-f-t-e-r explaining just what it is Joe does wrong. All four of Louis' sparmates took a lease on him during the six-round drill, but Hoosman was considerably out in front of the others.

"Joe signals his punches—you can see them coming now," Hoosman pointed out. "And he makes mistakes in there."

This is probably the first time anyone who stood up in front of Joe's Sunday shots has been able to say (1) that he saw what was coming or (2) that Louis signals his punches. Usually, they've come so fast and with so little advance billing that the other fellow wakes up some time later to inquire if it was an air raid or just termites that caved the roof in on him.

But Al showed yesterday what he meant. Joe cornered or crowded him against the ropes eight or 10 times during their six minutes. Yet, the Bomber was never able to bomb with the high hard one. Which doesn't mean, incidentally, that Joe wasn't trying.

"You could see him set to throw and you could see it coming," Hoosman explained. "So you knew what to do to protect yourself."

Louis Has Old Zip In Training

Champion Takes Ring Outdoors On May 23

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—Irked over the reported remarks of Ray Robinson, number one welterweight challenger, Joe Louis, the world heavyweight champion, tore into his sparring partners before a capacity crowd here Sunday, May 19. More than 2,000 were unable to gain admission.

Joe Louis

Robinson was quoted by the Conn camp as having said that Billy Conn, the Pittsburgher who meets Louis for the title in Yankee stadium on June 19, was in better shape at this stage of training than the champion.

The Brown Bomber showed some of his oldtime form and speed as he banged away at those who were able to remain upright. Assistant Trainer George Nicholson of Yonkers, N. Y., former sparmate of the champion in his quest for a world title and in all of his defense of his title preparations, will allow the champion a few days' rest from sparring. Thursday, May 23, the ring goes outdoors.

NICHOLSON ORDERED the sparring sessions lengthened and Louis will be boxing six rounds for a week then he will add more rounds each day until Nicholson is assured Louis can go the limit on June 19 if required to. However, Nicholson hopes to have Larry Amadee in camp as one of Joe's advisors soon. Larry assisted the late Jack Blackburn in the training of Louis.

Those who watched the champion Sunday have no doubts as to Joe's ability to put Conn away early.

The champion went two rounds each with Jimmy Bell and George Fitch and one each with Al Hoosmand and Perk Daniels. He took off his head-guard in the last round with Fitch and slugged it out bareheaded.

Mauler Hops On Joe Louis' Bandwagon

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 13 (U.P.).—Jack Dempsey, ranked as one of the greatest heavyweight champions in ring history, predicted today that Joe Louis will knock out Billy Conn when they meet for the world's heavyweight championship at Yankee Stadium Wednesday night.

After watching the champion box seven rounds today, Dempsey said:

"A puncher never loses his punch. The question is can Louis catch Conn? I really think Louis will catch him and win by a knockout."

Louis Looks "Fit"

Eddie Eagan, chairman of the New York Boxing Commission, who was among those who saw the Brown Bomber work out, said Louis looked "ready and fit."

"Louis appears to be in excellent condition," Eagan said. "He looks ready and fit, just as Conn does. I am satisfield the public will see a great fight. I would not be surprised if both Louis and Conn are hiding something in their workouts that they will show the night of the fight."

Louis looked particularly sharp with his left as he sparred a round with Perk Daniels. George Haywood, a youngster from New York who faced Louis for the first time today, also went a round with the champion and wound up with a bloody nose.

Louis also boxed Jimmy Bell and Al Hoosman. He plans to box six more rounds on Saturday, eight on Sunday and windup with six on Monday.

Dr. Clarence Hogan, Louis' personal physician, examined the titleholder after the workout and said he was in "excellent condition."

"I did not find his blood pressure as high as reported by Dr. Vincent Nardiello," Dr. Hogan said. Nardiello, a physician for the New York State Athletic Commission, reported after examining

Doctors Find Conn In Top Condition

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 13 (INS).—Two New York State Boxing Commission doctors today declared Billy Conn in almost perfect condition for his heavyweight title fight with Joe Louis June 19.

Drs. William Walker and Vincent Nardiello both said Conn had no more emotional reaction than a clam and is apparently as unconcerned as if he were going to a pink tea.

They found Conn's blood pressure 126-80 and his pulse 60 before a stiff six-round workout and 90 after the workout.

Conn went through two sparkling rounds each with Mickey McAvoy, Jim Smith and Mike Baluscio. Billy weighed 180 when he stepped from the ring.

He will remain idle tomorrow but will work again Saturday and Sunday.

Louis early in the week that the champion's blood pressure was high and predicted he would tire in his bout with Conn.

John Hall, New Jersey State Athletic Commissioner and Former Heavyweight Champion Jimmy Braddock were among those who witnessed the workout. Both thought Louis looked good, although they said he had slowed down noticeably.

"I'll Carry Fight To Conn This Time," Louis Declares

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—"I plan to carry the fight to Billy Conn when I defend my title against him in Yankee Stadium on June 19." That's what Joe Louis said while sitting on the rubbing table after a hard workout here.

"In the last Conn fight, I learned it was dangerous to let Billy fight his own fight, for when I started to go after him, I found out he was a hard target to hit and it took me much longer than I expected to catch him and finally knock him out. I realized that he was ahead on points and that I had to knock him out to win the fight.

Always Studies Movies

"Fighting a man a second time has always been easier for me. I have always learned a lot about a fighter's style after boxing him once and I always study the movies of a previous fight carefully to figure out the mistakes I have made, as well as the mistakes of my opponent.

"In my last fight with Billy, I came into the ring too light. I feel I will be stronger for this fight and that I will probably weigh ten pounds more than in the last scrap. I don't plan to sacrifice any strength by taking off weight. I want to come into the ring feeling strong. That was not the case in the last fight with Conn, I was under two hundred pounds and as a result was not as strong as I usually am for a championship fight."

Joe plans to have about one hundred rounds of boxing in Preparation for the championship go.

Sparmates Good Fodder

Everyone who has watched Joe Louis train here agrees that Louis has excellent sparring partners. Often the opponents of a champion in a fight camp are little more than human punching bags, but each of the boys here is a good heavyweight.

Mannie Seamon, a human dynamo of energy and trainer of Louis, selected the opponents for Louis with the assistance of George Nicholson. George for years was Joe's sparmate. Now he has been promoted to the position of assistant trainer.

Seamon, in talking about Louis' sparring partners says, every one of these boys is capable of holding his own with anyone his weight. Take for instance, Al Hoosman, Los Angeles heavyweight. Al lost a tough fight to Lee Savold in the St. Nickolas Arena and then beat Savold in Madison Square Garden. Hoosman has height, steps around well, and has a good left jab. *6-1-46*

Gives Joe Swell Workout

"George Fitch, the New Haven boy, does everything right when he's in the ring. He gives Joe a swell workout every time he climbs through the ropes.

"Jimmy Bell, of Washington, is a good boxer and moves around very well. Jimmy weighs about 185 pounds, which is about the weight Conn will be against Joe.

"In Perk Daniels, Joe has a good, stocky opponent, a short hitter and a hard hitter."

In winding up his comment about the sparring partners, Mannie added, "Let me tell you, there are no mugs in this training camp. Joe has to be on his toes every minute, for these boys don't pull their punches. And I might add, Joe doesn't pull his punches either."

Sat.

Louis' Fist to Feature Anatomy Exhibit

Times-Dispatch

NEW YORK, June 7—(AP)—A cast of the clenched right fist of Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis will feature an exhibit in comparative a n a t o m y at the American Museum of Natural History. The exhibit will open June 22.

Casts of the fighting hands of Henry Armstrong, Tony Canzoneri, Primo Carnera, Billy Conn, Jack Dempsey, Jack Johnson, Benny Leonard, Barney Ross, Gene Tunney and Fritzie Zivic also will be displayed.

6-8-46

Louis Impresses AFRO in First Ring Drill

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Champion Displays Sharpness in Punch Floors Sparring Mate as 100 Look On

Sat 5-11-46

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

POMPTON LAKES, N.J.—Displaying the same poise and outward non-chalance that characterized his pre-war training camp activities, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis went through his first five rounds of sparring in preparation for the June 19 title defense against Billy Conn, here Saturday afternoon.

Close to 100 goggle-eyed spectators braved chilly, penetrating rain to watch the titleholder box two rounds with George Fitch and one round each with Al Hoosman and Jimmy Bell.

And it didn't appear that a single one failed to agree the Bomber, though slightly off in his timing, was punching with a sharpness that was amazing. Many had come with the expectancy of seeing Joe slow and off form, since it was fully realized he was boxing for the first time in many months.

Had not Boxed

Throughout his eight-week stay at West Baden, Ind., the champion had done nothing in the way of ring work. His time was taken up in hikes and daily rounds of golf.

Joe squared off first with Hoosman, the elongated ex-GI who recently thrashed Lee Savold, white challenger. Immediately he showed signs of having lost none of his punching finesse, connecting sharply with a left hook to Hoosman's head.

Thereafter Al kept moving and throwing a left hand at the Bomber, one of which started his nose bleeding, the first time in the history of Louis camps that such a thing has happened.

Bell Floored

The Bomber stalked Hoosman and, cornering him, shot a left to the head and crossed with a well-timed right. *Sat 5-11-46*

Against Bell a few minutes later, Joe spent the early moments weaving and bobbing away from the Washingtonian's left jab, for which he is famed. It appeared that the Bomber's choice of sparring partners was meant to prepare him for Conn's left, since both Hoosman and Bell are adept at Jabbing.

Midway of the session, Louis shot a right to Bell's jaw and the D.C. boy hit the canvas. He was up in a jiffy, however, indicating that no damage had been done.

It was in the two rounds with Fitch that Louis's timing was proved off. The veteran sparring mate of Joe's camp for the first Conn bout eluded several well-meant rights by Joe and frequently tied up the champ after landing with a light left of his own.

Weighs 216

Joe weighed 216 pounds when he arrived here and his trainer, Manny Seamon, told the AFRO he intends to shear off at least seven pounds by June 19.

In addition to his five rounds of boxing, the champion shadow boxed for one round, skipped rope for one round, spent one round on the light bag and two rounds on the exercise mat.

Arriving here late Tuesday night, the Bomber worked for the first time on Wednesday, putting in two-5 minute rounds on the small bag, two rounds with the heavy bag, one round with the skipping rope and spending one round in calisthenics. *Sat 5-11-46*

Thursday, Joe arose at 5 a.m., was on the road for a five-mile jog by 6 a.m., and relaxed, following shower and rubdown, until his 10:30 breakfast. The usual afternoon program followed and this was duplicated on Friday.

Louis Lacks Old Punching Skill As Title Fight With Conn Nears

New York Time

Absorbs Many Punches From 4 Sparmates in 6-Round Drill—Critics, Including Billy's Brother, Are Unimpressed

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 4—Within nine working days of the date of the defense of his world heavyweight title against Billy Conn, Champion Joe Louis today went through a brisk training drill of about an hour at his camp here and left one indelible impression with the critics among the 500 or so observers.

Something has happened to the dark thunderbolt who is to step into the ring at the Yankee Stadium on June 19 for a fifteen-round struggle against the challenger who came so near lifting his crown five years ago. And, off his workout today, what has happened to Louis cannot be appraised as beneficial. *Wed. 6-5-46*

Five years away from his adopted trade, an interim that even devoted to war service, can understandably produce some measure of disintegration in the champion who is established as one of the greatest ever to hold boxing's richest crown. However, the deterioration could have been a little less pronounced, a little less shocking in its effect on a really great piece of fighting machinery, if the Louis who will face Conn within a fortnight, was exposed to public gaze in six rounds of sparring against four spar-mates today.

Conn of 1941 Could Win

The Conn of 1941 would have had little difficulty sticking and spearing and stabbing and cuffing the Louis of today, the consensus ran. Jackie Conn, younger brother of Billy, was among the observers and he seemed to sum up the situation with the terse announcement, "He looked easy to hit." Louis certainly was easy to hit, as Jimmy Bell, George Fitch, Al Hoosman and Perk Daniels all demonstrated, without difficulty.

More than this, Louis didn't find hitting his sparmates too easy a job. He lifted his right arm as if it were lead-weighted. He didn't dart that left hook in the old, accustomed manner, like a lightning bolt from any angle, and with unerring accuracy and unmistakable authority. Instead, he moved forward in the familiar shuffle on legs that have thickened at the thigh, and merely made a lot of motions. Seldom did he strike out because he was too busy absorbing straight lefts to the face, left hooks to the head and occasional right crosses. *6-5-46*

Even making allowances for the fact that Louis is notoriously unimpressive as a gymnasium worker, giving full credit for the capabilities of a sparring staff that admittedly is above par in this respect and taking into consideration, even, the fact that Louis undoubtedly was seeking the solution to the jabbing and hooking and cuffing problem he undoubtedly will face when he enters the ring against Conn, the fact remains, and it was inescapable, a quartet of sparring partners had absolutely no difficulty lathering the world heavyweight champion and the title-holder fell short of combating the conditions he faced.

In Good Physical Condition

Trainer Mannie Seamon understandably expressed satisfaction with Louis' physical condition. The champion, although thicker in the arms and thighs, and a bit soft about the hips, nevertheless is in the best physical condition possible for him. He could not have been otherwise and stepped through the six rounds of sparring, six minutes of shadow boxing, as much bag punching, as long a whirl at rope-skipping, a round of floor calisthenics, and a finale in which the giant George Nicholson stood four feet or so away and banged a big medicine ball into Louis' middle.

But the Louis of today, was far, far away from the Louis of 1941, justifying the suspicion that he must improve his defensive-offensive execution if he is to avoid an embarrassing evening on June 19.

Louis rounded out ninety-two rounds of sparring preparation with today's workout while Conn was resting. The challenger has worked 209 rounds to date. The champion has eight working days remaining. They will be eight workouts in which the champion must sharpen his punching if he is to avoid disaster.

International, Acme

WHAM! Challenger (left) and champion train for the $3 million fight June 19. Those five tickets are worth $500. (SEE: Mr. Barrow Returns)

Sports

Mr. Barrow Returns

Pathfinder

Back in March, 1942, Joseph Louis Barrow polished off Abe Simon in the sixth round at New York for his 49th knockout, climbed out of the ring and took his heavyweight title with him into the Army. Since then, U.S. boxing fans have been denied the privilege of supporting the whoop-de-do of a heavyweight championship brawl.

6-19-46

June 19, however, Promoter Mike Jacobs will remedy that when he opens Yankee Stadium to an expected 80,000 customers—at $10 to $100 a head. They will see Champion Joe Louis, now 32, defend his title against Challenger Billy Conn, 29, whom he knocked out five years ago.

What kind of fight it will be was a question. To sports writers, the impending clash had all the earmarks of a [illegible]eroo. An examining physician had said the two principals showed considerably slower reflexes than in 1941. Boxing savants, nodding wisely, predicted a dull and ponderous ring performance.

Washington, D.C.

Big Money. Nevertheless, the public was tumbling over itself to lavish cash on Uncle Mike, who looked for a record $3 million gross, including $100,000 for boxing's first television rights. Weeks before fight time, Jacobs had $1.5 million in advance ticket orders and speculation was that $100 seats would bring up to $500 the night of the battle. On this basis, Louis will wind up with about $300,000 and Conn with about $250,000. By way of contrast, John L. Sullivan collected $5,000 when he won his crown in 1882.

Some training camp visitors thought Conn looked better, but lacked punching accuracy. Conn himself, announcing Louis' legs would not carry him beyond six rounds, proclaimed he'd force the fight—a bit of strategy which cost him victory last time. Louis, saying little, went on chopping up sparring partners.

Who'll Win? To all this, two former champions had something to add. Gene Tunney unhesitatingly picked Louis. Jack Dempsey thought both fighters were past their peaks, but foresaw an early knockout by the champ. Tommy Loughran, former light-heavyweight ruler, picked Conn.

For Bomber Joe, the fight will be his 22nd since winning the title in 1937. Defeated only once in his career—when Max Schmeling kayoed him in 1936—Louis has proved a worthy successor to a long line of top American heavyweights, beginning with Negroes Bill Richmond and Tom Molineaux. Molineaux, a Virginia slave, won his freedom by whipping a neighboring Negro bully. Then, in 1810 and 1811, he fought and lost twice to the Britisher Tom Cribb for the "world championship."

On the Canvas. In a sense, Louis avenged Molineaux's fate by outpointing Tommy Farr, the Welsh coal miner, nine years ago. This kept the title from the British whose heavyweights have been mainly of the "horizontal" variety since Bob Fitzsimmon's day.

Latest in the horizontal line was Yorkshireman Bruce Woodcock, whom the Bronx's Tami Mauriello flattened in New York last month.

Pathfinder

Two-Year Wait

Washington, D.C.

For nearly four years of total war, the nation's fishing lakes and streams had a holiday. This year, the holiday over, anglers have shown up with surprising catches, even in spots formerly regarded as "fished out."

6-19-46

But fishermen, tramping from store to store for salt and fresh water equipment, have found shelves and tackle boxes empty. They have asked (1) why? and (2) when will supplies be normal again?

The industry now has furnished the answers. First, practically no tackle was made during the war. Dealers, who normally would have a carry-over from previous seasons, therefore must wait for new deliveries. Meanwhile, demand has soared.

Secondly, manufacturers have encountered several major obstacles to immediate full production. Plants lost up to 80% of their skilled labor during the war and now must train thousands of new workers. Bamboo shipments from the Orient still are negligible. Strikes cut down steel and copper for rods and reels. Other shortages delayed output of plugs, handles, waders and other items.

Still Short. When will production reach normal? In about three months, say manufacturers, with supplies of nylon lines, flies, spinners, floats, sinkers and single-action trout reels improving first. But normal production will not be enough to satisfy abnormal demand. Not for two—possibly three—years will fishermen be able to find all the things they want.

Baseball Bombshells

The season had opened with a bang. It was to be memorable for baseball's return to peacetime normalcy. There had been spring training in southern climes. Transportation bans were off. Old stars were returning.

By this month, it looked indeed as if the 1946 season would be memorable, but not for these reasons. Instead, there were two explosive developments: "War" with the Mexican Baseball League and threat of unionization of big league players.

U.S. club owners moved promptly to meet the first crisis. Mexican baseball, they said, was "outlaw" baseball. Players jumping to it would be banned from organized American ball for five years. But that wasn't enough. Lured by high salaries, 18 U.S. athletes wound up in Senor Jorge Pasquel's Liga Mexicana de Beisbol. The Yankees, Giants and Dodgers went to court, won first-round injunctions to keep the Mexicans from "tampering" with their men.

More Fireworks. Hardly had the ink dried on the injunctions, however, before the owners got another shock. Off to Mexico went St. Louis Cardinal Pitchers Max Lanier and Fred Martin and Infielder Lou Klein.

In Mexico City, Pasquel dug deeper into the $60 million family fortune to pay

Jolting Joe's Famous Fights

By CHES WASHINGTON

Wherein Louis Annihilates a MANN

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier Sat 5-4-46

After beating Tommy Farr August 30, 1937, Joe Louis temporarily "parked" his gloves after five fights that year until January of '38 before going into training for his battle with Nathan Mann, scheduled for Feb. 23, 1938.

Arriving in New York to cover the fight about noon, we went straight to the weighing-in ceremonies in downtown Manhattan. And much to our surprise we found Joe sullen, moody and obviously angry.

Upon questioning him closely we found that Joe had heard the wild, unfounded rumors that were going the rounds that Mann was "supposed" to win. And Joe was as mad as an infuriated bull.

"Why, I'm gonna murder that Mann, Ches," Joe declared.

It was this statement that gave us our lead that night:

It was a pure case of "Mann-slaughter" when Joe met Mann on that memorable night in February. It was Joe's TNT-ladened answer to the critics' hint that Louis was losing his punch. And that night Joe was hitting harder and faster than an electric trip-hammer.

FLOORS MANN IN SECOND

The story of the fight was short and snappy. Mann made a gallant but futile fighting flourish in the first round, while Joe was feeling him out, jabbing with his left, stalking and measuring. In the second Louis connected with a terrific right hand that stretched Mann on the canvass. Another right nearly knocked Nathan out of the ring. Then in the third Joe nailed Mann with the finisher. Nathan was game, but he had nothing to match Joe's power and speed.

Sat 5-4-46

JOE CARRIED TOO MANY GUNS

Nathan was a Mann who tried to outshoot a machine gun with a cap pistol. The inevitable happened. The pistol popped off twice. Then the "typewriter" started clattering away. Before its withering barrage no Mann could stand up and survive. Joe's fistic fusillade was too devastating . . . even for nervy Nathan. So he was mowed down . . . Slaughtered . . . Annihiliated.

One of our comments on the fight was:

"Never was Louis deadlier in his punching. And never in a better frame of mind for fighting when he faced the Connecticut clouter. The Louis of last Wednesday would have licked Schmeling in a walk. He was the perfect fighter that night, possessing aggressiveness, punching power, boxing skill, destructiveness and determination.

Apparently Joe wasn't worried about Nathan. He was thinking about an appointment he had with another man this summer. The guy's name is Max Schmeling. That's why Nathan was Mann-handled. The Bomber's mission that night was to clear the track of all obstacles and speed down the main line to the Schmeling terminal.

After the second round, when Blackburn saw the tide of battle turning toward the Bomber, Chappie whispered in Joe's ear:

"I'm trying to make the early train for Chi tonight, Champ."

Joe stopped the Mann in the third . . . and Chappie made his train.

The fight drew a gross gate of $119,841, with Joe receiving 40 per cent of the net ($40,522), bringing the total of the Bomber's purses up to the million mark.

Our memorial epitaph to a Mann, follows:

A Mann there was by the name of
Nathan.
For a shot at the champ he kept
on achin'
But he charged a powder keg that
was labelled Joe.
And Lo, in 3 rounds, wotta-Mann
was laid low.

NEXT WEEK — THE SECOND SCHMELING FIGHT.

THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

OUT IN SUNNY Los Angeles (it might be raining by the time you read this) Joe Louis says he will develop a "new technique" during his training for Billy Conn. As you already know the return engagement of the pair is down for Wednesday, June 19, at Yankee Stadium, New York City, with Mike Jacobs promoting.

Louis doesn't want the fight to go any 15 rounds. Most likely Joe remembers the last scrap when Conn was out in front on points at the start of the 13th, then changed his style and instead of continuing to box the world champion made the fatal mistake of electing to trade punches with Joe.

Between the 12th and the 13th, the late Jack Blackburn, who had trained Louis to perfection, told him, "you gotta win it in this round and you gotta knock him out—you're behind champ...you just gotta knock him out." Louis did.

* * *

WHATEVER LOUIS MIGHT be planning for Conn this time is perfectly well for him to keep a secret but it makes the fans wonder. Perhaps he picked up something while in the Army. Maybe he is "spoofing."

His statements make us dig some yesterdays out of the life's ashcan. Seems like we haven't forgot that night in Yankee Stadium on June 22, 1938 when Louis kayoed Schmeling in the first round and the German when hit and spun around let out a squeal the like of which had never been heard before in a prize fight and hasn't been heard since. Quite likely Herr Max had a reason for his handlers and manager rushed him to the hospital where he remained several days.

That sure was one wallop that Joe cut loose with. Afterwards we asked Arthur Donovan, the referee, why he stepped between Joe and Max, pushing Louis back and giving Schmeling a chance to get over the ropes where he was "draped" better than one of those zoot suiters.

Donovan said he didn't want Louis to kill Schmeling and ruin boxing in New York. That backing Louis away and waving for Schmeling to get off that top rope and fight was a better way. Seems like it must have been.

* * *

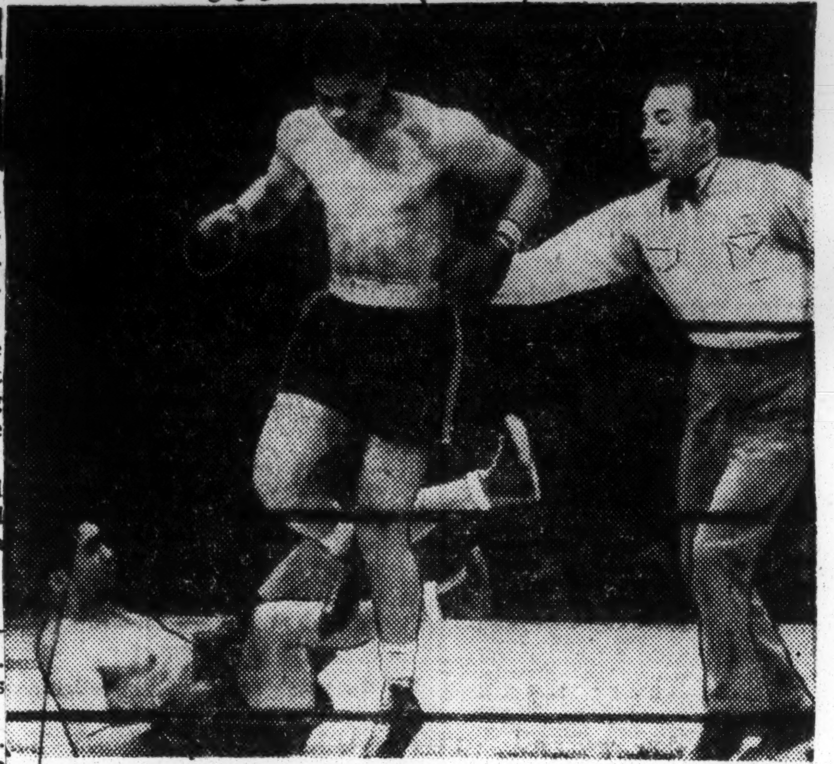
THERE WERE OTHERS who didn't last as long as Braddock from whom Louis won the title. Nathan Mann lasted three rounds before he was counted out. Harry Thomas was out in three but was given a new lease on life by Referee Davy Miller and again was knocked out in the fifth. Then came Schmeling, John Henry Lewis (such a match was a crime to have been made as old John Henry was going blind) and Jack Roper all were counted out while on the floor in the first round.

Tony Galento knocked Louis off his feet but in turn got knocked out in the fourth. Bob Pastor stayed 11 rounds before he went down and out. Arturo stayed the full 15 rounds but lost the decision. Paycheck went out in two and Godoy's second try against Louis ended with the South American on the floor for the count of 10 in the eighth.

Al McCoy, Red Burman, Gus Dorazio, Abe Simon (twice), Tony Musto, Buddy Baer (disqualified in the first bout), Billy Conn and Lou Nova were all knocked out. Conn and Simon (in the first fight in Detroit) stayed to the 13th before being counted out. Since winning the title only two men have stayed the limit. They were Tommy Farr of England who stayed 15 rounds on Aug. 30, 1937, and Godoy who also stayed 15 rounds on Feb. 9, 1940. Both lost the decision to Louis.

At 32, Louis has put his title on the line 21 times. During his pro career he has been defeated once—the first fight with Schmeling in June, 1936, when Louis was knocked out in the 12th.

Before Louis won the world championship, he has fought 35 times, lost one bout via being knocked out, won one six and four 10-round bouts on decision and knocked out all the rest. Since winning the title he has won two bouts on decision and knocked out the rest of his opponents. In this list we haven't counted the one-round knockout of Jim Robinson in Minneapolis in 1941 because that was an exhibition bout.



No Technique Used On Schmeling

Jolting Joe's Famous Fights

By CHES WASHINGTON

Unlike most of the former heavyweight champions who took plenty of time out to gloat over their newly won titles—Joe Louis, the fightingest fistic king in all boxing's history—was ready to defend his crown just two months after he won it from James J. Braddock in June of '35.

The first challenger was to be tough Tommy Farr, pride of the English empire. The date of the fight was set for Aug. 30, 1935, and the setting was the spacious Yankee Stadium. We were right in the second row of the press, only a few feet from the ring, so it was easy for us to refute Clem McCarthy's biased radio version of the fight, which they told us had Farr out in front when the end came. Here's the way we saw it:

VIRTUALLY BEAT FARR WITH ONE HAND!

Tonight under the star-studded skies of Yankee Stadium, a one-handed Brown Bomber, with stabbing pains shooting up and down that mighty right arm, passed his first acid test since he won the crown, by retaining his world's heavyweight championship here against the rugged assault of Britain's Tommy Farr.

And in winning with one hand, Joe proved that he is a champion worthy of the name. Fighting a courageous Farr, whose gameness made him one of the worthiest challengers ever to climb through the ropes, and even in the face of a hand injury, the Detroit Destroyer won through a type of sheer will-power which will go down in ring annals as a "defense without parallel."

For Joe Louis won in there tonight ... WITH ONE HAND!

CHAPPIE TOLD HIM TO BOX

Chappie Blackburn himself told us: "After Joe hurt his right hand in the fourth, I told him that he could outbox Farr and to go ahead and do it."

In an exclusive interview with your reporter, Joe exhibited a badly swollen right hand, rapidly turning dark, to prove what had happened. The third knuckle was almost twice its normal size. Joe's story to me in his dressing room about hurting his hand was not an alibi. It was a mere statement of fact. Only six or seven times during the entire fight did Joe use the hand which has bowled over champions and ex-champions with devastating effect.

So, in winning, Joe proved himself one of the most courageous fighters ever to wear the "purple" of fistic royalty.

Utilizing mainly a lightning-like left, which literally cut his opponent's face to ribbons, Louis, the man with thunderbolt right, had his foe on the verge of a knockout several times, but the injury he sustained in the fourth round prevented him from delivering the finisher.

Joe fired a barrage of lefts into Tommy's blood-spattered face throughout fifteen furious rounds, but the game Welshman kept coming back for more. And only SEVEN times that night did the Bomber's dynamic right find its mark.

Farr's left couldn't match that of Louis, and Joe's superior hitting power proved that Farr was far better on bragging than he was on punching.

They say the sun never sets on the British Empire, but when Louis set upon Tommy with two rights—one at the end of the tenth and the other just before the final bell—it looked like the sunset for the Welshman wasn't Farr off. And the last time Joe blasted him, Tommy gave a demonstration of the English version of the Virginia Reel.

LOUIS' POWER TRIUMPH

It was a battle of power versus courage . . . and Joe's superior power won. And at the end of fifteen rounds Louis had battered Farr so badly and had him staggering so helplessly that there was no question in the minds of the experts as to who was still the master.

So when Announcer Harry Balough raised Joe Louis' hand and proclaimed: "and still the heavyweight champion of the world," Joe had passed another milestone along the road to fistic immortality.

Louis Didn't Play Possum

Many people believe that the strategy of that cagey old trainer, Jack Blackburn, was the prime factor in Joe Louis's knockout of Billy Conn, in their wonderful pre-war battle. There is even a tale that says when Louis could not catch the Pittsburgh dancer, Blackburn advised him to "take one" and play possum in that 12th round. Then when Conn came roaring out for the kill, in the 13th, Joe nailed him.

Manny Seamon denies that. Manny should know. He was Blackburn's assistant. And on the insistence of the champion himself, Manny will be handling matters in Joe's corner on June 21, when he meets Conn again. Blackburn, the deft little colored man who did so much to give Joe the polish of a great champ, has gone to the old fighters' heaven, where, presumably, every fight is a sellout and nobody ever loses.

° ° °

"Most people think Conn got careless in the 13th round, after he nailed Joe in the 12th," says Manny. "That just isn't so. Billy fought a great and exceptionally smart fight. He wasn't careless. He was standing and slugging with Joe because that was all he could do. He had been hit around the middle so often and so hard that his legs just wouldn't move him. He could not dance any more and he got tagged. That's all."

° ° °

In his time, Manny has trained champions in almost every division, although not always when they held their titles. He handled Benny Leonard, Gene Tunney, Primo Carnera, Johnny Ertle, Johnny Wilson, Tod Morgan, and Ted Kid Lewis, among others.

"Blackburn once told me," says Manny, "that no trainer makes a fighter. The fighter must have it himself. All a trainer can give him is a bit of polish. Training a fighter is just like caring for a child. You've got to watch him all the time and make sure he doesn't over-do things or neglect them, either. If you see him doing something wrong, you tell him. If he's a smart fighter, like a smart child, he'll respond. If he hasn't got it, the best trainer in the world can't help him. We'll go to French Lick Springs early next month and stay there until April 28. We'll start boxing at Pompton Lakes May 1. Joe will need to fight from 125 to 150 good, hard rounds. I want good sparring partners. We will welcome any big guy, over 6 feet, with a good left hand, who weighs from 175 to 210. They'll get well paid and well fed. We don't

care if they knock Joe around at the start. We need hard competition. Here's a chance for somebody to make a name for himself. (That music in the background is the shade of Bert Williams singing *Somebody Else Not Me*—Ed. Note). Joe is overweight now. All trainers have tricks to take weight off fighters without too much hard work. I asked Joe if he would be interested in anything like that. He said, "Look, you know me. I work hard in the gym. I'm honest. I want to take that weight off right. No tricks." That's the kind of fighter I like to train. Don't worry about Joe's age. He'll be in shape. I don't think three years makes that much difference between heavyweights. Most of them were fine in their 30s. And remember, Louis never smokes or drinks. In the long run, that pays off." . . . Are you listening Mister Conn? . . . Round One!

—TOM O'REILLY

BEARDED AND RUGGED—Hers' a bewhiskered Joe Louis, in his West Baden Springs (Indiana) camp, taking time out for a cup of tea. He's getting in great shape for his fight with Billy Conn in June by playing golf, doing road work and playing softball. He moves into Pompton Lakes, N. J., next week.—International News Photos.

Louis Arrives to Launch Training At Pompton Lakes

New York Times

By JOSEPH M. SHEEHAN

Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis appeared a lot more interested in baseball than in his impending title defense against Billy Conn yesterday on his arrival here from his preliminary training base at West Baden, Ind.

As soon as he heard that Bobby Feller was slated to pitch for Cleveland against the Yankees, Louis eased toward the exit of the new offices of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club, where the fight reporters were gathered to interview him.

It may have been that he was anxious to see how hard hitters make out against fast throwers at the Yankee Stadium, which also will be the scene of his return rendezvous with Conn on June 19. Or it may have been that he just wanted to make the most of his last fling in society before settling down to hard work. Either way, Louis stood not on the order of his going but up and went as soon as he had satisfied his inquisitors.

Louis Plans to Carry Fight

A little heavier than the Louis of old, but otherwise in apparent good trim, the champion revealed that he weighed 216 pounds. He plans to reduce his poundage to 208 at Pompton Lakes, N. J., where he will start serious training today. He went in at 199½ pounds in his 1941 fight with Conn.

"I'm not worried about my speed, my weight or anything," Louis said. "I plan to carry the fight all the way and if I have anything to say about it, it will be much shorter than last time."

It took thirteen rounds for Joe to catch up with Billy, who was leading on points at the time, in their first battle.

Although Louis said that he had been working out at West Baden since March 7, his activities there were confined to hiking through the hills, chopping wood and playing golf. He did not once pull on the gloves.

This matter will be taken care of in short order once he gets settled at Pompton Lakes, where he has trained on several occasions. Half a dozen sparring partners will be in the entourage of twenty that is to accompany the chompion to his base.

George Fitch of New Haven, Clint Conway of New York and Jimmy Bell and George Crawford of Washington are among those whose unenviable assignment it will be to sample the speed and punching power of the post-war Louis. The champion is fully confident that he has lost none of this. "My only problems are to sharpen my punching and get my timing back," he confided.

Louis created a minor sensation when he appeared in Promoter Mike Jacobs' royal suite above Madison Square Garden sporting a luxuriant crop of whiskers that set off to striking advantage his snappy brown sports ensemble. However, the beaver was due to be shorn just as soon as he could make his first visit to a barber in two months.

Gillette to Sponsor Television

Exclusive television rights to the Louis-Conn fight have been obtained by the National Broadcasting Company and the Gillette Safety Razor Company, it was announced yesterday by Promoter Jacobs, J. P. Spang, Jr., president of Gillette, and John F. Royal, NBC vice-president in charge of television. The event will be broadcast over television station WNBT, which returns to the air on May 9.

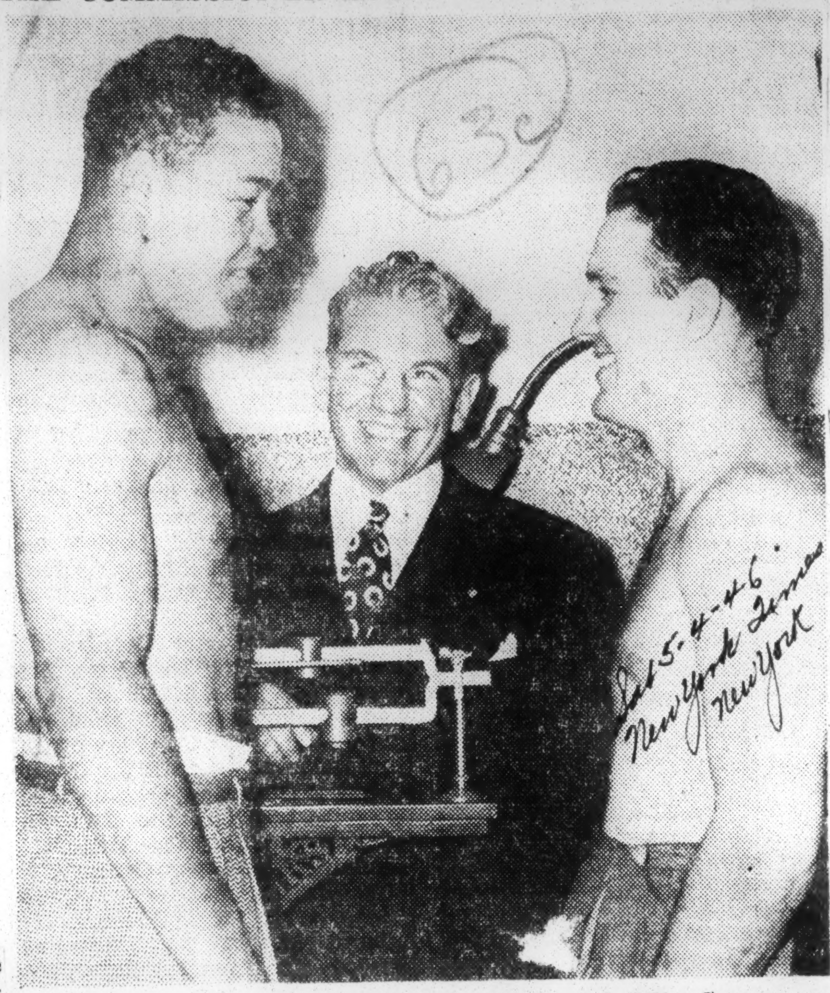
NBC and Gillette also have acquired television rights to all other fights promoted by the Twentieth Century Sporting Club at Madison Square Garden and outdoor parks in the New York area from June, 1946, to June, 1947. The three organizations have been cooperating since September, 1944.

Five cameras will be used to cover the fight, three of them equipped with the super-sensitive RCA Image Orthicon. The event will be broadcast to Washington on a closed circuit for the benefit of a selected group of government officials.

Louis and Conn have their ticket troubles too

NEW YORK—Don't take it too much to heart if you've had a time trying to get tickets for the BIG BRAWL June 19 at Yankee stadium for the main attractions of the evening themselves are also having to do a bit of finagling for a few ducats. Champion Joe Louis and challenger Billy Conn both took off last week and teamed up on promoter Mike Jacobs to the common end of getting somewheres near enough tickets to calm the thousands of friends besieging them. They didn't get near enough, it was reported.

THE COMMISSIONER LOOKS OVER HEAVYWEIGHTS



Eddie Eagan (center) giving Jo Louis and Billy Conn a preliminary weighing-in at at his offices here yesterday after they completed details for the championship bout on June 19 at the Yankee Stadium.

Associated Press

Joe Louis Names Buffalo Sportsman As Manager

Chicago Defender, Ill.

NEW YORK—Joe Louis, world's heavyweight champion, announced this week that Marshall Miles, Buffalo sportsman, would be his new manager.

Louis' selection of Miles puts to rest the rumor that Mike Jacobs, promoter for the Twentieth Century Boxing Club in New York City, was the real manager of Louis. On Louis' exhibition trip to the Pacific Coast, Irwin Rosee, nephew of Louis, handled Joe's business arrangements.

Louis has made no answer to the reports that he had dropped Julian A. Black, Chicago real estate dealer, and John Roxborough, the two men who handled him since his amateur days to the world title against James J. Braddock in 1937 and in all of Louis' title defense fights up to the time the contract ran out this winter.

To Train In Indiana

Roxborough, serving a two-year sentence in the Jackson, Mich., prison, on charges of gambling in Detroit along with 20 others including the former mayor and sheriff, was denied a parole last week by the Michigan Parole Board. This means that Louis' former comanager will not be released until Oct. 4. The Brown Bomber meets Billy Conn of Pittsburgh in the Yankee Stadium on June 19 under Jacobs' promotion. Roxborough had hoped to be in Louis' corner that night.

Louis returned here from a two-months' tour with Ralph Cooper who acted as master of ceremonies with Luis Russell's orchestra. The champion said he would leave in two weeks for Los Angeles where he would stay until March 1 at which time he moves to French Lick, Ind., to start his preliminary training for the Conn bout.

On Wednesday, May 1, Louis will open his training camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J. Manny Seaman has been selected as trainer. He has trained Louis since the death of Jack Blackburn who trained Louis in all of his championship fights except the last two.

The champion is deeply in debt to Mike Jacobs who advanced him money while he was in the service. He also owes the government back income taxes. Mrs. Marva Trotter Barrow, divorced wife of the champion and her daughter, Jacqueline, are said to have been promised 32½ per cent of Louis' end of the Conn battle.

Joe Louis Names E-Army Officer To Handle His Public Relations

The Call, Kansas City, Mo.

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—World Champion Joe Louis last week named his former U. S. Army commanding officer, Lou Krem, as his official public relations adviser and contact man.

Krem, a 41-year-old discharged captain from the army service forces and former athletic officer at Camp Shanks, N. Y., accompanied Louis on a 50,000 mile exhibition tour of army camps during World War II. In his announcement of the new edition to his staff last week, Louis said:

"We became very good friends, even though he was my commanding officer. He is a good sport and a fine gentleman. When you travel 50,000 miles with a man and live with him, day and night, you get to know him pretty well. He's my kind of a guy. You don't find too many army officers who are nice to enlisted men."

Krem said he felt it a privilege to be working with Joe, that he had found him a good soldier and a splendid citizen. "As far as I'm concerned, he's in my all-time all-American book, along with Knute Rockne and Connie Mack," he said. The six-foot, 200 pound former pole vaulter once played football under Rockne at Notre Dame.

63c 1946

Joe Louis (Conn)

Billy Conn - Joe Louis Fight Date Is Wednesday, June 19

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK—Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion, will defend his title against Billy Conn, Pittsburgh, in Yankee Stadium here on Wednesday night, June 19, Mike Jacobs, promoter for the Twentieth Century Sporting Club announced. The biggest boxing gate in ring's history is predicted.

Joe Louis

Conn gets his second try to wrest the crown from Louis. The first meeting of the pair was in New York on June 18, 1941. Louis, trailing on points, came out of his corner to knock Conn out in the 13th round in the Polo Grounds, home of the New York National League Baseball Club. A crowd of 60,071 paid $451,743, the 14th largest in ring history to see that fight. Sat 5-26-46

TOP RINGSIDE seats will cost $100 each for the June scrap and Jacobs is certain that the gross gate will surpass the all-time high of $2,658,660 paid by 104,943 fans who saw the Gene Tunney versus Jack Dempsey world title bout in Soldier Field, Chicago, on Sept. 22, 1927. Tunney was winner in 10 rounds.

The second largest gate was the first fight between Dempsey and Tunney in which Tunney won the Philadelphia on Sept 23, 1926. The bout went 10 rounds to a decision. The gate was $1,083,530 paid by 120,757.

The first Tunney vs. Dempsey fight holds the record of drawing the largest paid attendance. The Chicago fight had a top price of $40 which boosted the total receipts.

Louis' last fight in Yankee Stadium was on June 20, 1940 when he knocked Arturo Godoy out in the eighth round in a title defense bout. He had won from Godoy in the 15th round on Feb. 9 of the same year.

The second Conn vs. Louis bout will be Louis' 23rd defense of Joe's world crown since winning it from James J. Braddock at Comiskey Park, Chicago, on June 22, 1937.

* * *

THE BROWN BOMBER'S last defense was on March 27, 1942, when as an army corporal, Louis world title. That was held in knocked out ponderous Abe Simon, the Brooklyn ice man, in the sixth round in Madison Square Garden for the benefit of the army emergency relief.

When Conn met Louis in 1941, he weighed 174. Louis weighed 199½. Conn is now training in Hot Springs, Ark. Louis says he will start training on March 1.

Louis will be without his old side kick and trainer, the late Jack Blackburn who trained him for the championship fight with Braddock and trained him for all of his fights except the late one with Simon. Louis will also be without the services and advice of Julian A. Black, Chicago, and Johnny Roxborough, Detroit, the two men who piloted him from his amateur ranks to the world title and whom Louis has dropped since coming out of the army.

Report From Joe Louis' Indiana Training Camp

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Sat 4-13-46

Special to the Daily Worker

WEST BADEN SPRINGS, Ind., April. 12.—Champions may come and champions may go, but there will be only one Joe Louis. To the millions who have wondered how Joe was able to compile this remarkable record, a brief stay in this southern Indiana resort town will give the answer. When Joe arrived here on March 8, he was about 20 pounds over his best fighting weight of the past—201 pounds. He had been absent from the ring, except for exhibitions, since March, 1942. Ordinary fighters would have frantically tried to get into condition. Joe, with that methodical efficiency for which he is famous, slowly began a scientific build-up.

RESTS UP

First, he went to sleep. He rested for three days. He went on a protein diet, two meals a day, plenty of broiled meat, milk and ice cream. Little by little he added mileage to his hikes up a nearby mountain until today he is doing six to eight miles of climbing. He plays golf, nine holes an afternoon, a little soft ball, an occasional game of horseshoe pitching. He may start riding a horse or two soon.

On April 29th he will leave here for Pompton Lakes, fit and ready to meet sparring partners for the wind-up. He has had no boxing gloves in this camp, which is really no camp at all but a large boarding house in the shadow of Tom Taggart's famous French Lick Springs Hotel.

Indeed, boxing is seldom mentioned either by Joe, his trainer, Mannie Seamon, or by his associates. The atmosphere of the camp is that of a bunch of fellows on a serious vacation. Joe reads a lot, newspapers, magazines, good books. He talks about events of the day. He follows the careers of Jackie Robinson and John Wright, the Negro ball players now with the Montreal Royals. **"It's great they got a chance,"** he says. **"But why did baseball people have to wait so long to give it to them?"**

Seamon, who was assistant to Jack Blackburn for five years preceding Joe's induction into the army, says that Joe makes his own schedule of training. **"He knows all about himself. He picks his own food. He is doing more for his final condition** now than he will when he gets to Pompton Lakes. He never was much of a gym worker—although I'll see to it that he gets plenty of opposition when it's time for him to enter the ring. Sat 4-13-46

TRIBUTE FROM TRAINER

"I have handled champions from Bennie Leonard to Ted Kid Lewis, Johnny Eetle and Ted Morgan. Joe is by far the easiest to train. His understanding of himself is remarkable—he never loses his temper, never becomes annoyed when people drop in. He is the most considerate boxer I have ever been associated with, not only in the ring but in private life."

Among Joe's pet hates are two gentlemen from the South, who had better not poke their noses into his camp—and who will probably not. They are "The Man" Bilbo and a certain Congressman by the name of Rankin. The champion, who points to America as the country which offers more to the average person than any other nation in the world, believes that the poll tax is a blot on the fair escutcheon of American democracy. After he meets Billy Conn at Yankee Stadium on June 19, he expects to have something to say on that subject.

In the meantime, however, he continues to demonstrate by his personal action his basic philosophy. And that, briefly put, is never to harm anyone by act or thought, but to fight for the rights of all, white or black, who need help.

A close associate of Joe's said today: "He's a wonderful person in more ways than one. Can you think of any other celebrity who has been before the public as long as Joe has—for ten years—who has never changed the slightest in his attitude toward the people he meets. He is never too tired to sign an autograph, to meet visitors, to talk about the things closest to his heart.

"Mind you, a Negro champion doesn't get the breaks, even when he is as popular as Joe. If Conn had defeated him in 1941, Billy would have been on the radio, he would have been in a Hollywood picture—he would have made a million dollars outside the ring by now. After Joe beat Billy, he fought two fights for charity. He made nothing for four years. Since his discharge from the Army, he had to work hard, in vaudeville and exhibition appearances to pick up an income. Yet you will never hear him complain. He believes that his attitude will gain him—and his people—more in the end."

WHEN JOE LOUIS WAS IN ENGLAND . . .

Daily Worker

(We received a very interesting story from a former Army Public Relations man who handled part of Joe Louis' Army exhibition tour in England. But suppose we let the writer, who prefers to remain anonymous, tell the story himself.—B.M.)

"It would be much in order to mention just a few of the incidents that won acclaim and respect for Joe Louis and his company while he was touring England during 1943. New York, N.Y.

"I recall the day he arrived at

one of our camps near Hereford, an English town noted for its breed of cattle. Joe put on his boxing exhibition that night and the applause was so great that the GI's begged Louis to put on an encore the next night so some of the soldiers who missed him that evening would have an opportunity to see the champ. Fri 4-19-46

"Later that evening I accompanied Louis on a trip into town. On the way, we happened to see a small boy in the roadway ahead lying prostrate. **Joe jumped out of the small army truck, picked up the lad, and order the driver to speed to the nearest hospital. When we** arrived there, the youngster was rushed to the operating table. Joe Louis took out 50-pounds and offered to pay all the hospital bills. The following day, he called at the hospital to inquire about the boy's condition—and the look in the injured lad's eye when he was told that he was speaking to Joe Louis, was sufficient to aid him in his recovery.

"Wherever Joe and his unit went, he was greeted by crowds of English war workers. In Newport, Wales, a special celebration was held in his honor, attended by hundreds of miners and the Lord Mayor of the town. In every town that Louis gave an exhibition, the local sports editors would pen reams of excited copy praising the heavyweight champ's performance."

Conn Works On Defense For Louis

Richmond-Times Dispatch

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J. June 5—(AP)—Billy Conn boxed eight more rounds against four sparring partners today, bringing his ring work for his heavyweight title bout against Joe Louis two weeks from tonight to 217 rounds. And today Billy did most of it going backward. -6-6-46-Thurs.

In two-round sessions against Jackie Conn, the challenger's kid brother; Jimmy Smith, Frank Poreda and Mike Delluscio, Conn concentrated almost entirely on defense maneuvers. He was very good at them, too. Though manager Johnny Ray said that after a two-day layoff Conn was not as sharp as he had been.

Through the entire eight rounds, Conn was dancing around, evading punches or picking them off with his gloves, lashing but occasionally with a left to the body and head. He was especially aggressive against Belluscio, a hard puncher, sinking left hooks into his sparmate's body and then swinging the same hand to the head before Belluscio could cross his right.

Conn weighed 182 pounds after the workout and said that he might enter the ring against Louis under 180 pounds.

Richmond, Va.

Tickets Going Fast

In News York, Promotor Mike Jacobs disclosed that more than 11,000 of the 15,000 ringside seats have been sold for the fight at the Yankee Stadium June 19.

At $100 a copy for the ringside pews, the promoter already has more than $1,100,000 in the till from the sale of the choice seats alone.

According to Jacobs' figures, 6,437 ringside seats at $25 were sold for the first Louis-Conn fight at the Polo Grounds five years ago. That bout grossed $45,000, Mike said.

Sign Title Bout Contracts

Joe Louis, left, and Billy Conn, right, at table, pen their signatures to contracts to fight for the world heavyweight championship at Yankee Stadium, New York City, June 19. Looking on are Mike Jacobs, promoter, and Boxing Commissioners Eddie Eagan, white, and Dr. C. B Powell.

This Morning

Washington Post Mon. 6/3/46

—With Shirley Povich

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 2.—On the winding auto trails that skirt the Jersey Lake country, you heavy-foot it on the accelerator for 16 miles beyond Joe Louis' training camp until you run smack-dab into Gleason's place on a bend in the road, which looks like a thousand other dine-and-dance joints on a thousand other highways.

POVICH

Gleason's place is different now. The juke box is out, stilled for five weeks while Billy Conn does his fancy dancing on the floor formerly reserved for jitterbugs, except that it's now occupied by a regulation ring. Gleason's place is Conn's training camp, with the fight for the championship only 18 days away.

Conn's camp is pitched in rolling, verdant country by the lakeside, an ideal spot for a guy with the serious business of going into the ring against Joe Louis at hand. Bleacher seats are there for the fans willing to pay $1.30, including tax, for the pleasure of watching Conn box eight rounds daily against sparring partners. When the weather is good they see him work outside in another ring, set up by the lakeside.

Right now, Greenwood Lake looks like a country suburb of Pittsburgh, Conn's home town. Pittsburgh folks are flocking to the spot to see their Billy boy in action. He's their guy, the ex-Dead End Kid from Pittsburgh who they think is going to beat Joe Louis for the heavyweight championship of the world on June 19 at Yankee Stadium.

Of the six sparring partners in camp, five are from Pittsburgh, rough, tough guys that Conn grew up with. Plus his little brother Jackie, who thinks he's a fighter in his own right, and right now is intent on winning all that Billy has at gin rummy, poker and dice. Conn works for an hour every day, and then he goes hell-bent for cards, craps and fun.

"He took me for eight hundred at poker last night," moaned brother Jackie, but I'll get him tonight at gin. That's my game. I'll own half of him by the time he steps into the ring with Louis." It's wonderful, this Billy and Jackie relationship. Jackie'll fight the guy who says Billy won't lick Louis, and he'll fight Billy, too, if his big brother shows any lack of confidence, which is a long shot.

We asked Billy about Louis today, and he was forthright enough. "Joe's had that title for a long time," he said, "and I gotta win it this time, it's my last chance, and I'm desperate." Conn needs the money that the title would bring him, because he says himself, "I spend a lot of money." Only one thing is certain, Conn, title or no is going to wind up broke, because, as he says, he spends a lot of money.

In Conn's dressing room was a brand new baseball autographed by his friend Leo Durocher with the inscription, "Good luck, Billy, bring it back." Durocher obviously didn't mean bring back the baseball. What he meant was bring back the world heavyweight title.

Durocher sent not only the ball, but a brand new bat to Conn, and when it was suggested that Conn might do well to take the bat into the ring with him against Louis, young Jackie objected. "All he needs to take in there with him is that left hook. When he clouts Louis with that, Joe will think he's been slugged by a bat. Billy boy can't miss the title this time."

Billy boy looked pretty good in training today. He went at his sparring partners in a serious mood, belting them good when they got too fresh, but otherwise, contenting himself with taking it in the belly and on the arms from guys who couldn't touch him if these weren't training bouts. He boxed eight full rounds against four different sparring mates.

The fellow who gave him the best workout was Erv Sarlin, a light heavy from Conn's Pittsburgh section where he grew up with Billy and just before the war knocked Lee Oma cold. Sarlin was pounding Conn right smart in the body when all of a sudden Conn went down, not from a punch but from a slip. The 300 fans in the bleachers oh'd and ah'd at the spectacle of the challenger on the floor.

Then Billy got mad. He permitted the referee to wipe off his gloves and then he tore into Sarlin and all but finished him off. He was whipping across a right hand that he says he never had before. "I'm stronger," said Billy after the session. "I weigh 185 and I'll go in against Louis at 183. They said last night I weighed 174 against Louis, that's a lie. I was only 169. These 14 pounds I've got are going to win that title for me. Louis will know what hit him. It'll be 183 pounds of Conn, who just grew up."

This Morning

Post - Washington D.C.

—With Shirley Povich

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 5.—At the start of a new day, Billy Conn arises at 6:30, steps to the door of his rustic lodge, surveys the wooded hills that undulate to the 9-mile long lake in the distance, inhales deeply of the tangy morning air and tells you:

POVICH

"Nuts! The country is for countrymen."

Conn's rural retreat may represent some folks' idea of getting away from it all, but what Conn is impatient to get away from is Greenwood Lake, and the stillness and quiet of the Ramapo Hills. For him, that's the worst part of fighting Joe Louis, the six weeks he's sequestered in the country, though it be at Mike Jacobs' expense. He's ready to fight Louis tomorrow night, if it means getting back to the city.

The challenger may come out of his training camp as a better fighter, but they'll never re-make him otherwise. He's still a dead-end kid from Pittsburgh, and his idea of the perfect place to train for a fight is at Stillman's Gym on Eighth ave., with the mob and the bright lights around the corner.

"Everything you need for training you've got to drag out from the city anyway," Conn complains, completely uncharmed by the supposed beauty of his rural surroundings. "First you bring out the ring, then the sparring partners, and your handlers, and your cook. The country doesn't have anything to offer except all those trees and lakes, and who wants them?

"Now Monday, I laid off and was in New York. Was up at Yankee Stadium and saw the Yankees bang the Browns around. That was all right—had a little bet on them. Then I had dinner in a good spot and lobbed around the hotel. Ain't that a lot better than waiting for your arteries to harden in the country?"

Another thing that gets Conn is the rural distances. "Every time you want to see a movie, you got to drive for miles," he told me and Lester Bromberg of the World-Telly. "I know so many towns around here, I could run a hack stand. A while ago, I needed a haircut. Where do you think I wound up? At Pompton Lakes, a mile from the Louis camp."

Conn, if he beats Louis, would be a wonderful champion in a couple of ways. One thing is certain, he'd never be a dull champion. His between-fight escapades, like his kitchen brawl with his new father-in-law, will make exciting reading. Conn can't keep out of minor troubles. And the guess is that he's sure to wind up broke. The card games in his training camp are for stakes that would make the pros wince. And there's dice, too.

One more thing is certain, too. Conn isn't the least bit scared of Joe Louis, or anybody else. Unlike other of Louis' opponents, Billy boy will go into the ring plenty confident that he can take the title. That's the way he went in last time, and he almost made it until that thirteenth round when, as Billy says, "I missed with my right and Louis didn't with his."

In fact, Conn is more serious about this fight, 14 nights hence, than he was about his last joust with Louis five years ago. You could tell that when he said the other day, with downright glinty eye, "I'm a desperate man. This may be my last chance to win the title and I don't want to miss it."

The heavyweight title is the most important thing Conn knows. To him, up from the Pittsburgh streets and reared in the hard school of fist-fighting, the guy who is the heavyweight champion is the man who has won everything. That's what Conn wants to be—the champ, and honest, it strikes you sometimes that he doesn't care so much for the money that's in it. Money never was a passion with Billy, anyway.

Right now, both Conn and his handlers are not so sure it wouldn't be the smart thing to try to knock Louis out if half a chance presents itself. That idea was supposed to be verboten in the Conn camp after the last disastrous experience when, not content to win on points, Billy tried punching with Louis and got himself knocked out.

"I'm a bigger man now," said Conn. "They said I weighed 174 when I went in with Louis last time, but it was nearer 169. That's all it was, 169. I'm going in there around 184 this time, and I'll have 15 more pounds on my punch. I know I'm punching harder, and I feel like I'm a stronger man. At 184, it's going to be a good weight. I'm not building up to it, I'm building down to it, and that's good muscle. If I get a good shot at Louis, maybe I'll have that title quick."

Joe Louis to Aid Negro Vets

Daily Worker New York

Joe Louis, in a personal interview with several national officers of the United Negro and Allied Veterans at his Pompton Lakes training camp yesterday promised, "After the fight, I think I'll be able to really help build UNAVA."

Louis, who is honorary national chairman took time out from his training to greet the UNAVA two-day New York State Conference on June 8-9, at the Elks Auditorium, 15 W. 126 Street. He said that he had been "following what's happening to Negro veterans," and expressed the hope that the conference would, "fight to help our people get more houses, and better jobs."

Jolting Joe's Famous Fights

Pittsburgh Courier

Louis' Most Dramatic Fight . . . The Second Schmeling Battle

Pittsburgh, Pa.

By CHES WASHINGTON

On Dec. 30, 1937, Joe phoned me from Detroit and asked me to come over for Jan. 1, 1938. "I'm gonna make just one New Year's resolution, Ches," the champ declared, "and I want you to be my star witness." When I arrived Joe revealed his resolution, solemnly: "I'm gonna beat Schmeling . . . and beat him quick. I'm gonna whip that guy if that's the last thing I do."

After questioning Joe later, we realized that Joe was fighting mad at Schmeling . . . Not just because he beat him . . . But because Maxie had resorted to hitting him after the bell.

"That wasn't fair," Joe said bitterly. "And he didn't have to do that." Sat. 5-11-46

So after manhandling Mann in three rounds in February of 1938 and then stopping Harry Thomas in five in April, Joe hurried into training camp to begin some serious training for his revenge fight with the only man who ever beat him as a pro — Max Schmeling. The batle was scheduled for June 22, 1938, and the place . . . Yankee Stadium. Over 70,000 fans turned out to see the fistic fireworks.

JOE WARMS UP IN DRESSING ROOM

Joe was so determined that night to be ready and "hot" that he warmed up in his dressing room for about fifteen minutes prior to being called to the ring. Then when he climbed through the ropes and stepped into his corner, he was not the usual quiet, cool Louis of former fights . . . Wearing two robes — one flannel and another silk—to retain his body heat, Joe began prancing in his corner like a young colt stamping at the barrier. He was dancing up and down like a lightweight and rarin' to go when the opening bell sounded.

Part of our story from the ringside that night follows:

"YANKEE STADIUM, June 22—Blasting his foe into submission like a conquering lion against the rival who defied his reign, Joe Louis proved his right to the title of King of Kings of the fistic forests by stopping Max Schmeling in the first round of their scheduled fifteen-round fight. Herr Moxie's premature finis came after two minutes and four seconds of fighting in the initial heat.

"And tonight, under the blue canopy of Manhattan's star-studded heavens, more than 70,000 frenzied fans acclaimed Jolting Joe as a truly worthy wearer of Fistiana's royal purple. Sat. 5-11-46

A PROMISE FULFILLED

"Joe had made a solemn promise that he was going to redeem himself in the eyes of those he had 'let down' when he lost to Schmeling two Junes ago. He would get even with Max, he pledged.

"Tonight he kept that promise by unleashing one of the most murderous punching barrages in fistic history. So devastating, so deadly and so vicious was his attack that no man living could have survived its withering fire.

"To the poet, there is nothing so rare as a day in June, but for Joe, this magic June night was the night of nights for the bronzed monarch of the roped-circled kingdoms.

"Perfectly conditioned, and as trim and as fast as a greyhound, Louis was again the brown bombshell of Fistiana. Cautiously but surely he began bursting hand grenades on Moxie's chin from the opening bell with such destructive effect that it was less than a minute before the Teuton began tottering.

SQUEALS LIKE A STUCK PIG

"After about a minute of lightning lefts, Joe shot a right hand punch to the kidneys that landed with a sickening thud. The Black Uhlan screamed like a stuck pig. A rabid fan shouted 'He's hurt!' And Schmeling was. Dazed by the coolness of Joe's attack and stunned by a terrific left prior to that mighty right to the kidneys, Schmeling started wobbling.

"Desperately hoping that he could still land one of those 'sucker' punches, Schmeling gambled with one zooming right which went sailing by Joe harmlessly. It could have changed boxing history, but it turned out to be only another right that failed. Sat. 5-11-46

JOE SENSES THE TIME FOR THE FINISHER

"Backing the Teuton into the ropes, Joe shot a right to the midsection. Max buckled and another right and a smashing left collided with the sinking German. It left Schmeling draped weakly over the ropes. Then, with another left, Joe dropped Moxie for the first time. Staggering to his feet at the count of three, Schmeling ran into another left which cut him to earth again. Max painfully pulled himself to his feet after the count of one.

"Now sensing the time for the 'kill' and determined to end it all, Louis lunged forward for the finishing punch. And then it came . . . Like a bolt of bronzed lightning . . . It was a right propelled by a surge of youthful power and reinforced by a burning desire for revenge. It landed flush on Schmeling's jaw. Schmeling dropped like a bull struck by an axe. At eight he staggered up like a man in a drunken trance. Mercifully Referee Arthur Donovan stopped the fight as Max's handlers tossed in the towel. And Louis had proved himself a champion worthy of the name." Sat. 5-11-46

Conn Plots New Way To Fight Louis; Bomber Shapes Plans

Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, Ala.

By GAYLE TALBOT

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 12.—(AP)—If the six rounds he boxed today may be accepted as a tip-off, what Billy Conn has in mind to do a week from tonight is try to bring Joe Louis down with a steady barrage to the big man's middle.

Under directions from his manager, Johnny Ray, the challenger concentrated on boring his way in and slamming his sparring mates in the pantry until they grunted and hung on. Billy's straight, stabbing left, ordinarily his best weapon, was only rarely in evidence. June 6-13-46

After two days of rest, during which his weight ballooned up to 188 pounds, Billy looked strong as he mauled heavyweights Mickey McAvoy, Frank Poreda and Mickey Bellucio for the benefit of a small crowd.

Ray says he has decided not to try to bring Conn into the ring at any certain weight. A few days ago both he and Billy were mentioning 180 as the goal toward which they were working for the big test, but Ray says now that Conn might come in as high as 184.

"We'll just go along working and taking it easy, and whatever Billy weighs next Wednesday will be all right," Johnny said. "The important thing is that he's in condition. Did you notice that none of those guys could hit him today?"

Among those who watched the Pittsburgh fighter dance about tirelessly between assaults on his partners' middles were Barney Ross, the former lightweight and welterweight champion, and Harry Wills, the former heavy contender. Both leaned toward Conn. Montgomery, Ala.

"If Louis doesn't knock Billy out within three rounds, Billy's a cinch to win on points," Ross predicted.

Louis Plans To Press

Conn In Big Battle

By SID FELDER

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 12.—(AP)—It was cool and quiet in the shade of the porch, watching the sun bring clittering gems out on the surface of the lake which is the front yard of Joe Louis' cottage up here at his training camp.

You asked Joe to analyze his last tussle with Billy Conn, and the one coming up next week, and his plans generally for the big fight. The Bomber looked out at the diamonds sparkling on the lake, and listened to the cricket army sounding its battle cry in the lawns all around, and thought it all out for several minutes. There was no one else around to interrupt, so Joe went through the entire rundown for the first time since he began his training. Montgomery

"I'm going to keep Conn going backward this time," he disclosed. "The last time, he kept coming to me, and I let him and it was just what he wanted. I won't let him do it this time. I'm planning a fast, forcing fight—keep him going back all the time."

It was the first time Joe had tipped you off as to just how he expects to fight the Pittsburgh pretty boy with the dazzling speed, who almost dethroned him five years ago. But the Bomber hasn't looked too good in training. He's been slow and easy to hit. What about that?

"I realize I may be slower moving away from punches than I was the last time," he admitted. "But I'm sure I punch just as fast and just as hard as I ever did. And some folks are forgetting I never was a fast, speedy boxer. 6-3-46

"I've worked harder for this fight than for any fight in my life—harder and longer. I feel good. I feel just as good as I did for the second fight with Max Schmeling, which up to then, you remember, was the one I wanted to win more than anything else in the world."

Joe Louis' right fist, in plaster, became a Manhattan museum piece. The American Museum of Natural History added it to its comparative anatomy collection.

Bomber Joe, a Good "Doer," Is Well Liked by Campmates to Retain Crown

Afro American Sat 5-11-46

Baltimore, Md.

POMPTON LAKES, N.J.—Joe Louis is a good "doer."

In case you don't know it, in the parlance of the sports world that means the champion is a good eater, one who'll put away whatever's put before him—and relish it!

People who train athletes always like to see their charges eat heartily, provided it's at the right time. They don't want to be bothered with a finicky eater because there's always the fear he's not getting all the vitamins and calories and what-have-you that are deemde essential to good health and a strong body.

But they don't have to worry with Joe in that respect.

Bones, Bones, Who's Got . . .

Bill Bottoms, the white-haired chef who's been preparing the Bomber's meal ever since he started bombing, says the champ'll take care of what's set before him. He'll make bones of it, and he won't make any bones about it.

His Saturday breakfast, Bottoms told the AFRO, consisted of prunes, prune juice, ham and eggs, fried corn and tea. Joe likes bread, but when they told him he couldn't have any until he had shed some of his excess suet, the champ didn't fuss. Instead, he just reached over and took another helping of corn.

Dinner (Joe only eats twice a day—at 10:30 and 5:30) was made up of a 2-inch steak, string beans and corn and tea, only three items on the menu but, man alive, what helpings!

Incidentally, everybody here is satisfied the Bomber's title is in good keeping until well after the June 19 date with Billy Conn. The Pittsburgh Irisher "ain't got a chance," they all concede. Sat 5-11-46

Joe, however, doesn't share this degree of confidence. He thinks he'll beat Billy, but admits he'll have to be at his best. "Billy's game and clever," Joe observes.

Al Hoosman, himself an aspirant to the throne, told the AFRO Saturday after sparring one round with Louis: "It's the first time I've had a chance to box him and I was surprised at how hard he hits with such little apparent effort. I haven't seen this Conn either but I can't figure him better than this guy if Joe's this good in his first workout in over a year."

Jimmy Bell, another sparring mate, said: "The champ's right sharp to be so early. With the expected improvement, he'll stop Conn in short order."

George Fitch, the third of Louis's partners, was more cautious in his observation: "The boss's timing was off with me but you have to expect that. He'll do bstter later. He doesn't seem to have lost any of his power; only his timing. Oh, he'll whip Conn, though."

Trainer Manny Seamon and Assistant Trainer George Nicholson the latter a former sparring partner, were in agreement that Louis will stop Billy. "He's going to surprise a lot of folks who think he's gone back," they asserted.

Louis and Conn were in New York last week where both posted $5,000 forfeits after being examined by Dr. William Walker, State Athletic Commission doctor. Dr. Walker reported both men in fine physical shape,

and said neither had suffered much in the long layoff. Only in their reactions, which were slower in both men, Dr. Walker said, did Billy and Joe show a change in the condition they exhibited when he examined them for their first bout.

Louis, incidentally, ruled out an attempt to have him train in private. It had been planned to bar the public from his workouts because it was feared he would not look good in gymnasium drills for his first fight in four years.

Joe told his advisers very flatly: "I don't intend to ever bar my friends from my camp."

The Bomber came here after watching Bob Feller's no-hit, no-run game against the Yankees, his last baseball game for the duration of his training period. He has also played his last round of golf until June 20, Manager Marshall Miles told the AFRO.

The beard which adorned Joe's face when he arrived in Harlem early last week was abandoned in a New York barber shop—SAM LACY.

Jimmy Braddock (left), who held the heavyweight title two years and eight rounds before surrendering it to Joe Louis, and Tom Loughran, the old light-heavy champion, furnish the usual advice to Louis at Pompton Lakes. Jimmy told reporters Joe, too, will be an ex-champ late next week.

Jack Britton Picks Louis To Win Inside 10 Rounds

Miami, Fla., June 16 (AP).—Jack Britton, 59-year-old former welterweight champion who fought 380 ring battles, declared today that Joe Louis is "the last of the 'old school' fighters" and should take care of Billy Conn inside of 10 rounds.

"It seems to me the fighters today don't know why they are throwing various punches," Britton said. "They just throw 'em and hope for the best. Years ago most of the top boxers were ardent students of the sport. They didn't waste as much energy as they do today. You watch. Louis won't toss any aimless punches."

Britton won his title by knocking out Ted Lewis in nine rounds at Canton, Ohio, in 1919, and lost it by a decision to Mickey Walker in Madison Square Garden in 1922.

Statements

NEW YORK, June 19—(AP)—Here are the just-before-the-battle statements of Joe Louis and Billy Conn:

CHAMPION LOUIS: I've trained hard for the fight. I'm sure I will knock him out. He got away from me in the second and fifth rounds of our last fight, but he won't get away this time. If, however, the fight does go the limit, I'm sure I will win the decision. I was weak at 199¾ pounds for that fight. I'll weigh 210 pounds for this one and will be strong as a bull. I will prove to everyone that I haven't lost my punch.

CHALLENGER CONN: I'll be there—and I'll be on time. I have worked hard and long for this shot. I feel in great shape and can go 15 rounds at top speed without running out of gas. I'm glad the long training haul is over. The easy part comes now—all I have to do is fight Joe. I'll either win or get killed trying.

Louis has been champion for nine years now. It was from his good right hand they got the idea for atomic distintegration. In his heyday, the promoters used to advertise: 'Get there early; it won't last long.'

But Conn's backers are confident. Billy went 13 rounds with Louis in '41. And the champ has aged five years since. As who—besides Little Orphan Annie—hasn't?

At any rate, it will be a great show: The winner will get the world's acclaim, and the loser a rematch in the Fall.

Riled Jacobs Verbally Flattens Conn's Manager

By Sid Feder

Associated Press Sports Writer

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., May 28—There is always an explosion of one sort or another going off in a Billy Conn training camp. Today' sizzler was a nice quiet brawl between Johnny Ray, Billy's manager, and Promoter Mike Jacobs, that could be heard, anyway, 13 miles.

This one came off in New York this morning. Ray still had the fuse lit when he got back here in time for Billy's eight-round workout, in which the Pittsburgh pretty boy demonstraed in the best accepted manner that he's a lot closer to being in fighting shape right now than Joe Louis and that his speed and his viciousness when he's in there swatting are nothing to fool with without a flak vest.

The rhubarb between Johnny and Mike began peacefully enough, with Ray asking for some tickets within radar distance of the Yankee Stadium ring for "junior's" June 19 jamboree with Louis to fill the request of some Pittsburgh pals. When it comes to asking Mike for tickets, it is well known that you might as well suggest taking one of Mike's arms.

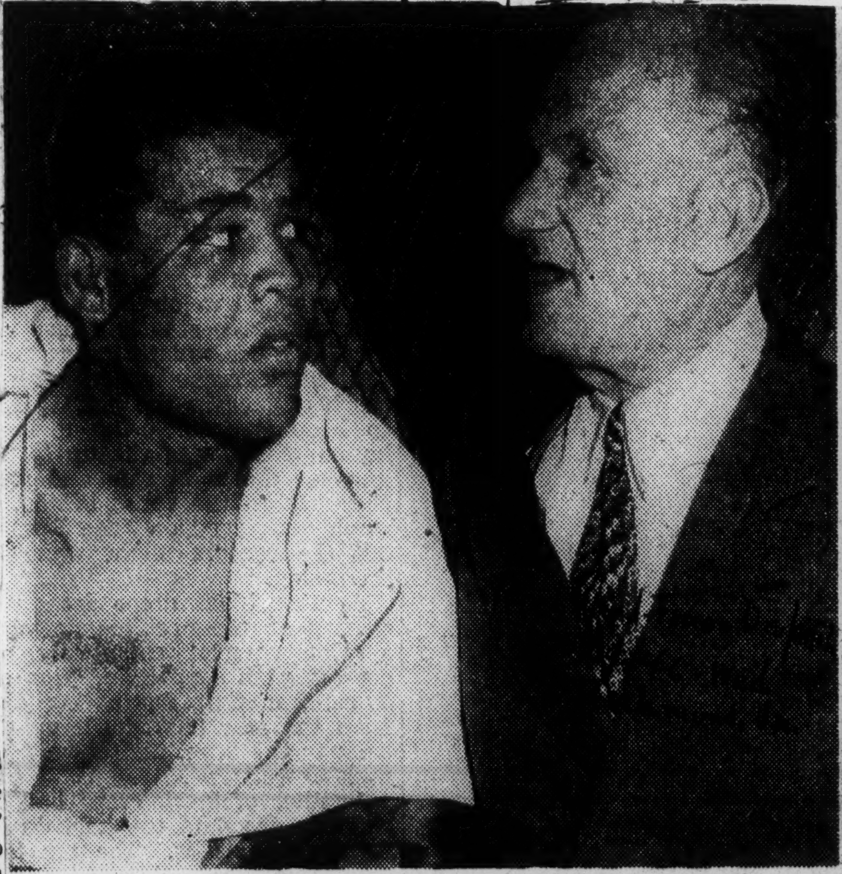
As a result, before it was over, Johnny had charged Jacobs with being "Louis' manager and promoter," and the next step was for Mike to order Ray out of his offices and leave instructions to bar him whenever he makes an appearance in the future.

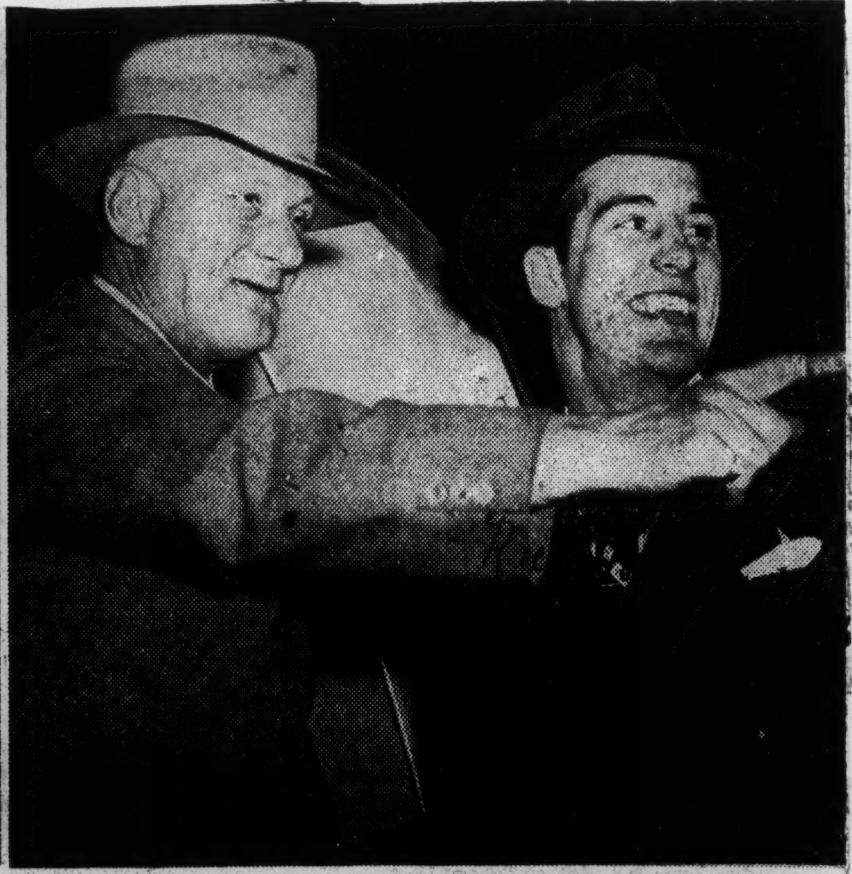
"If that's the way you want it, okay," Johnny informed Jacobs and anyone else within five blocks, "but when my Billy wins the heavyweight championship next month, you'll have to come to my office in Pittsburgh to see me. And when you do, I'll have two doormen on the door with orders to keep you out.

"You're Louis' manager and protector," Johnny went on for the entertainment of one and all, "and when he wants something, you see that he gets it. He's got a lot going for him, and we don't have anything going for us. Well, we'll take care of that June 19."

Ray May Have Something There

There may be something in what Johnny says, at that, at least off the way Billy laid large left hands on the persons of four sparring partners for two rounds apiece



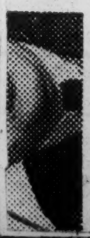


Promoter Mike Jacobs Observes Strict Neutrality in These Pictures with Joe Louis (Left) and Billy Conn

The New York Boxing Impresairo Has Been Accused of Being "Louis' Manager and Protector"

JACK TARVER

Whoever Wins, Mike Jacobs Won't Lose



Joe Louis meets Billy Conn tonight for the heavyweight championship of the world.

This is the biggest scrap since Adolf threw in the towel.

In fact, a lot of citizens have parted with negotiables to view tonight's imbroglio who wouldn't have used an Annie Oakley, front-row center, at Salerno.

Ducats for the bopping-bee are a hundred-dollar ringside. Those in the two-buck seats will be apprised of the results by carrier pigeon.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 98

Conn Impresses Queensberry With Speed in Drills

Greenwoodlake, N. J., May 26 (U.P.).—Great Britain's "Mr. Boxer," the Marquess of Queensbury, took a look at Heavyweight Challenger Billy Conn today and concluded promptly that "he seems ready to fight for the title right now."

Conn, working outdoors in training for his June 19 date at New York with Champion Joe Louis, boxed six rounds with three opponents. Most ringside observers agreed he turned in a brilliant performance.

"He is marvelously fast," the Marquess said.

Conn went two rounds against his brother, Jackie Conn, two with Mickey Belluscio, and two with Jimmy Smith. He belted all of his opponents hard and was quick enough to evade any real punishment from them.

3000 Watch Louis In Four-Round Drill

Pompton Lakes, N. J., May 26. World Champion Joe Louis worked out today for his heavyweight title bout with Billy Conn before 3000 fans, the largest number to see him in action since he started training here.

Marshall Miles, Louis' manager, ordered the chmpion to box only four rounds insted of the customry six, becuse he believed he was taking off weight too rapidly. Louis weighed 212 pounds before starting his workout today.

Louis Shows Best Form Yet Against Warmup Partners

Age Herald
Birmingham Ala.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., May 19—(AP)—With a capacity crowd of 500 looking on, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis flashed some of his best form in going four rounds against his sparring partners today in preparation for his title bout with Billy Conn June 19.

According to local Police Chief William F. Charles, more than 2,000 other fans were turned away from the Louis camp. 5-20-46

The champ was scheduled to box six frames but because of the stifling heat in the jammed gymn, Trainer Manny Seizon cut the session down to four rounds.

It was Louis' last boxing exhibition until Thursday when an outdoor ring is expected to be completed. The bomber then plans, weather permitting, to do all of his training outdoors. 5-20-46

Champ Angered By Article About His Debts; 'Scandalous'

The Call

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—A heavy libel suit against Ebony magazine may soon be filed by Joe Louis, heavyweight boxing champion, through his lawyer, William Temple, over a feature story in the May issue on "How Joe Louis spent $2,000,000."

In his training camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J., Joe blasted the magazine article as "scandalous" and a "sneer" on his personal life. His major objection, according to his statement, was to the paragraph which hinted his indebtedness amounted to around $300,000. Kansas City, Mo

Meanwhile here, Temple admitted he plans to file the suit, but refused to name the sum beyond saying he will file for "a considerable sum," which may mean $100,000 or more, according to reports. 5-31-1946

John J. Johnson, publisher of Ebony, denied all intent to damage or harm the champion and has declared publicly that he is prepared to prove every statement in the article.

"The story was not written hurriedly, or with any intent to damage the reputation of Mr. Louis, for whom we have great regard," Johnson said.

The story shows how Joe has spent $2,000,000 in various ways, including bad investments, riding stables, golf bets, and gifts to "leechlike camp followers."

Louis Discards Head Guard In Workout

Richmond Times Disp.
Richmond, Va.
Fri. 5-17-46

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., May 16—(AP)—Joe Louis became so disgusted with the fit of his head guard today that he discarded it and slugged out the final round of his workout with George Fitch bare-headed.

Louis, preparing for the defense of his world heavyweight title against Billy Conn in Yankee Stadium on June 19, boxed six rounds today, going one each against Al Hoosman and Perk Daniels before taking on Fitch and Jimmy Bell for two each.

Conn, at Greenwood Lake, N. J., also went six rounds in a manner that caused William Prince, Connecticut State commissioner to say that 'Conn did very well, indeed.'

The challenger, who expressed disappointment in his condition yesterday, appeared much sharper and faster today. He will box every day the remainder of the week in an effort to improve his himing.

Louis Names Ex-CO 'Contact' Man

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

NEW YORK— (ANP)—World Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis last week named his former U.S. Army commanding officer, Lou Krem, as his official public relations adviser and contact man.

Krem, a 41-year-old discharged captain from the Army service forces and former athletic officer at Camp Shanks, N.Y., accompanied Louis on a 50,000 mile exhibition tour of army camps during World War II. In his announcement of the new addition to his staff last week, Louis said:

"We became very good friends, even though he was my commanding officer. He is a good sport and a fine gentleman. When you travel 50,000 miles with a man and live with him, day and night, you get to know him pretty well. He's my kind of a guy. You don't find too many army oficers who are nice to enlisted men." 5-18-46

Krem said he felt it a privilege to be working with Joe, that he had found him a good soldier and a splendid citizen. "As far as I'm concerned, he's in my all-time all-American book, along with Knute Rockne and Connie Mack," he said. 5-18-46

Spar Mates Find Louis Vulnerable

Times Dispatch
Richmond, Va.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 2—(AP)—Joe Louis displayed some of his formidable punching ability today but the heavyweight champion also continued to be an easy target for his sparring partners.

With little more than two weeks to go for his title defense against Billy Conn, there was some concern in the Brown Bomber's camp over his sluggishness and vulnerablity. 6-3-46

Louis went six rounds indoors this afternoon.

Taking on Jimmy Bell for one round, the champ dropped his partner with a short left hook to the body. Georgie Fitch, however, found Louis pretty easy to hit in his one-round drill. Monday

Lanky Al Hoosman worked for two frames and in the last session Louis walloped him with a left hook that lifted the Los Angeles battler right off the floor. Perk Daniels went the final two rounds and he hit the champion pretty often. Louis, in a good humor, allowed Daniels a lot of liberty.

The Bomber will stay out of the ring tomorrow but will pick up his boxing chores Tuesday.

Conn's Brother Watches Louis; Isn't Impressed

Times Dispatch
Rich. 6/5/46
6/3/46

POMPTON LAKE, N. J., June — (AP)—Midway through Joe Louis' six-round workout today, Billy Conn's brother, Jackie, was found in the stands watching the drill—and he didn't think much of it.

After Joe completed his work, in which he looked slow and was clouted liberally by his sparmates, Jackie announced flatly that the Bomber "looked awful easy to hit and Billy will punch him silly" when they meet for the heavyweight title in Yankee Stadium June 19. Wed. 6-5-46

Several fight managers on hand for Louis' sparring session reported that the greatest change they noted in Joe's offense was that he appears to be "pushing" his punches now instead of "snapping" them as in the past. Richmond Va.

With today's six rounds, Louis has sparred 92 sessions in his training camp here, compared to the 209 Conn has boxed at his Greenwood Lakes drill grounds. Conn did not work out today.

Conn Sparkles In 6-Round Indoor Drill

Times Dispatch
Richmond, Va.

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 2 — (AP) — Billy Conn gave another sparkling training camp performance today as he belabored three sparring partners in a six-round indoor workout.

The Pittsburgh speed merchant, who meets Champion Jot Louis for the heavyweight title in the Yankee Stadium June 19, was extremely fast and sharp. Mon.

Jackie Conn was his first victim and Bill didn't show any partiality to his brother, hitting him with jabs and hooks for most of their two heats. Jimmy Smith and Mickey Belluscio followed and took their lumps in two-round stints. 6-3-46

It was the first time in more than a week that Conn boxed less than eight rounds. The challenger will take it fairly easy tomorrow and won't box but he is scheduled to resume ring work Tuesday.

Progress in Tolerance

PROGRESS, if assayed at short intervals, is usually discouragingly slow. Appraised over long periods it frequently is great. Evening Bulletin

The death of former heavyweight boxing champion Jack Johnson makes this a good time to assess the public attitude on racial tolerance. When Johnson was in his prime in the prize ring, the cry from one end of the country to the other was for the development of a "white hope" who would "prove" supremacy of the race in boxing. Philadelphia, Pa.

Search for this "hope" went on for some years, and to mention Johnson's name was usually to bring an expression of intolerance from whites.

Today there is another Negro heavyweight champion. But there is no wild clamor for a "white hope." Many of those who shouted the loudest thirty years and more ago view Joe Louis' reign with equanimity. 6-12-46

Tolerance may be advancing at a snail's pace, but it is certainly advancing. Philadelphia, Pa.

Louis-Conn Through Glasses

Advertiser, Montgomery, Ala

By HENRY McLEMORE

NEW YORK.—The Joe Louis-Billy Conn fight for the world's heavyweight championship poses a pretty problem in economics for a man who always orders the regular dinner without as much as a glance at the a la carte side of the menu. With tickets priced at $100, would it be wiser for a man to dig into his Christmas Fund this early in the year and get a ringside seat, or should he settle for a $10 seat and use the difference to purchase a pair of binoculars? Once the fight is over, the $100 stub will be good for nothing but pasting in a memory book, but the binoculars could be sold, pawned, used for bird watching or as a pretty fancy door-stop. 6-10-46

Will Use Binoculars

I think I'll settle the question by going out to the Yankee Stadium today or tomorrow, settle down where the $10 section will be located, and scan second base—where the ring will be pitched for the fight—through binoculars. There is only one hitch in this plan. I have heard that Uncle Mike Jacobs, promoter of the fight, is a trifle reluctant to reveal the location of the $10 seats at this time. It is said that he wants to save the location as a last minute surprise for the customers. There is a tip out that these lowest-priced seats will be on an elevated train which is scheduled to pass the Stadium at approximately the time Louis and Conn square off, but this doesn't sound too reasonable. After all, the elevated runs within half a mile of the Stadium, and a seat on a slow-moving train should be good for $20 at the very least. Monday

Come to think of it, citizens who buy tickets for prize fights are the biggest gamblers of all sports spectators. They never know what they are going to get, or how much they are going to get. A fight may be over in ten seconds, or it may go to the full distance and be a brawl that the spectator will remember forever. This is true of no other sport that I can think of offhand, unless it be a duel between two crack shots, and duels are few and far between these days. When

200,000 Cheer For Joe Louis Harlem Parade

New York, June 19 (INS).—Harlem turned out more than 200,000 strong today to honor Joe Louis, although the champion himself was absent. June 20-46

Crowds estimated by police at about 200,000 persons cheered a parade of another 5000. Most city and State notables advertised as having planned to attend did not put in appearances, but the one celebrity who did show up was wildly cheered. St. Louis

He was Henry Armstrong, former holder of three boxing championships, who received his applause while riding on top a sound truck.

a man pays for a tennis match he knows he is going to get at least three sets. The shortest golf match must go a minimum of ten holes, and there is no chance of a customer seeing a one-inning ball game with no refund of his money. And so on down the line in sports. How many people would pay out money for a musical comedy if there was a good chance that the chorus girls would prance out for ten seconds and then the curtain would go down? And can you imagine Mrs. Rhinedanver Fishmont bothering to attend an opera which was likely to end before the tenor had finished the first ten yards of the opening aria? *Monday*

Boxing Fans Are Different

But boxing customers are different. As a matter of fact, they consider a first round knockout as just about the happiest thing which can happen. They are inclined to whistle and jeer and give the old Bronx cheer if the battlers don't see to it that there is an early finish to the proceedings. Everyone was happy as sixteen larks on a picnic when Louis finished off Schmeling while the ushers were still seating early arrivals. I recall how pleased a Chicago crowd was when the same Louis disposed of one King Levinsky in nothing flat. I was eating a hot dog under the stands with Barney Ross when that one ended. *6-10-46*

The fact that Promoter Jacobs is getting requests for Louis-Conn tickets from places as far away as the suburbs of Rangoon is proof positive that the fight customer is a unique creature. I have a sneaking feeling that my Christmas Fund will go for a ticket to the bout. Be seeing you there.

(Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

Conn at Peak Of Condition, Still Working

Atlanta Constitution

By SID FEDER

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., June 6—(AP)—Billy Conn hit his training peak Thursday—he said so himself and his well-splattered sparmates heartily agreed — but he's figuring on working right up to the day before he collides with the Bomber on June 19, anyway.

He's so ready right now that he's asking his pals if they know some way of pushing the calendar up a couple of weeks because he wishes the fight were tomorrow night. He weighed 182 pounds after clouting three sparmates for half a dozen rounds Thursday, during which he disclosed that (A) his left hook is very warm for early June and (B) he is punching more with his right hand than ever before. *6-7-46-Fri*

Although he's sparred a total of 223 rounds since he pitched camp up here and you'd expect him to relax now and to devote more time to gin rummy and reading the funny sheets in order to maintain his fine edge, he's going right on about his business.

MORE SPARING PARTNERS

Manager Johnny Ray—who is being tabbed "Lord Hee Haw" up here since he sprang a phony British accent on the boys—agrees with the Pittsburgh pretty boy. Thursday, Johnny sent out a call for some brand-new sparmates to replace the worn ones on whom Billy has raised large lumps in the past weeks.

"That doesn't mean," Johnny explained, "that Billy might not take a day or so off between now and the fight. But we're in shape now and the only way to stay in shape is to work to keep it. So 'Junior' will work out right up to the time we break camp June 18. It may not be all boxing—but it'll be work. *Atlanta, Ga.*

"There's a story going around that Joe is figuring on taking things easy after this coming Sunday. Well, just wait till he sees what we got cooking on the stove for him."

Just what is cooking was demonstrated during Billy's half-a-dozen heats Thursday. Tall, rangy Jimmy Smith, one of his better sparmates, took some liberties in the first of their two rounds, and Conn accused him of jabbing a finger in his eye with an open glove. The eye was red and watery after the session was over.

GOES AFTER SPARMATE

Willie was somewhat irked and in the second heat he swatted Smith with four or five especially vicious hooks, then topped it off with a right hand that all but floored Jimmy. After that, in two rounds with Mike Belluscio, Conn was so fast and sharp that he even astonished Harry Lenny, old-time fight conditioner who worked with Louis when Joe won the heavyweight crown back in 1936.

"Joe," Harry insisted, "is going to need all his old-time form for this one, because Billy has matured into a real good heavyweight since I saw him last."

LOUIS CUTS LOOSE WITH BEST PUNCHES

Times, New York, N.Y.

Champion Jars Two Sparring Partners—Conn Impresses in Six-Round Workout

6-7-46

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., June 6—As if to contradict published reports that he had hurt his right hand, Joe Louis cut loose here today in six rounds against four sparring-mates in the training campaign which is to fit him for the defense of his crown against Billy Conn June 19 in the Yankee Stadium, and appeared to better advantage than he has in many of his previous workouts.

Plastered with straight left jabs and occasional right swings to the head and face in a single round with the gigantic Al Hoosman, an easy target in another single round against George Fitch when left jabs were the order, Louis was roused to anger when Jimmy Bell swished across his face with an instinctive, uncontrollable backhand left, and thereafter the sparring partners felt the impact of the champion's punches.

Bell staggered under a left hook and a whip-like right to the jaw in the last minute of the first round and in the second a smashing short left hook to the body almost doubled him up.

In this workout and in sparring against Park Daniels, Louis cut loose at greater tempo than has been his custom, crowding both Bell and Daniels in his familiar forward shuffle, whipping left hooks to the body against left jabs, and crossing rights to the head in flashes. *Sat*

Service Men Look on

Originally scheduled for an indoor drill because of threatening skies, Louis shifted to the outdoor ring when he discovered about 100 soldiers from the Newark Air Base had come over to see him work. With about 400 other observers the service men left the scene satisfied that the titleholder is in condition and impressed with his hitting. For, through every round, Louis gave indications of the battle plan he will follow against Conn, pressing his mates steadily, coming in against left jabs and cutting loose only when he had a shot at the target. *6-7-46*

The body fire to which he subjected Bell, coupled with a drilling of rights to the head, had the Washington 183-pounder, closest approach to Conn in the Louis entourage, dizzy. Daniels, too, was glad when the call of "time" ended his two-round session, although through most of the second Louis merely stalked his man, obviously looking for an opening for a right which never came.

Promoter Mike Jacobs of the Twentieth Century S. C., who is conducting the title battle, was among the spectators and expressed satisfaction with Louis' condition. In a meeting with critics before the drill Louis answered a volley of questions. Ray Robinson, uncrowned welterweight champion, was at his side. Robinson, it developed, has been engaged to recommend corrections in whatever weaknesses he discovers as Louis' training approaches a climax.

Louis, reiterated that he has different plans for this second tilt with Conn, but didn't give any details of course. He expressed complete satisfaction with his condition and his training methods. The six rounds he boxed today boosted his total to ninety-eight and he finished in excellent shape. The champion admitted he has traveled a hard road getting back into serious training after four years of idleness, and added that he is heavier than ever without being slower. He insisted he is punching harder and will be stronger for this bout than he was for the last when he knocked out Conn in thirteen rounds.

Cliff Mann Is Engaged

He said he has engaged Cliff Mann, Cleveland heavweight, for his final sparring workouts and expects the newcomer to be here on Sunday.

In his camp at Greenwood Lake, N. J., Conn sparred six rounds as the feature of his workout, and forgot his promise not to lose his head. The Pittsburgh fighter, annoyed when Irish Jimmy Smith accidentally thumbed his eye, cut loose in the second round of their two-round session and belabored Smith with a savage fire of left hooks to the body and right hand drives to the head. In two rounds which followed with Mickey Bellusceo, the challenger continued at a rapid pace, and was particularly effective with straight left jabs and left hooks to the body. Today's session brought to 223 the number of rounds Conn has sparred since he launched his training campaign.

Conn's showing impressed, among others, Harry Lenny, veteran handler of fighters, who at one time managed Johnny Wilson, a world middleweight champion, and was a Louis second the night Joe won the title from Jim Braddock in Chicago.

"Conn no longer is to be considered merely a boxer," said Lenny. "He has developed into a great all-around fighter. His legs are strong and his general condition impressed me as I watched him work out today."

Change Evident In Louis, Conn As Date Nears

B'ham Age Herald

BY GRANTLAND RICE

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., May 22—(NANA)—A few of the old-time fight mob one usually finds around training camps were talking about the nine years Joe Louis has kept his grip on the heavyweight crown.

"Sullivan was rated champion from 1882 to 1892," one of them said, "but old John L.'s title was always in doubt, since there was no official ranking in those days. As it now stands, Joe Louis leads them all—nine years from 1937 to 1946. Those nine years at the top won't help Joe. Being up there for so long softened up the others and Joe still is a human being."

> **CAMP REPARTEE**
>
> Said Bomber Joe to Billy Conn,
> "How's yo' homework comin' on?"
> "In just four weeks I'll let you know."
> Said Billy Conn to Bomber Joe.

5-26-46-Sun

Recalling the 23-year-old Brown Bomber of 1937, watching him move around this May Day of 1946, the change was evident enough, but not as striking as it might have been to the great majority of ringmen. Louis makes no pretense of being the athlete he was nine years ago. He also is smart enough to know that an absence of more than four years from competition hasn't been any vast help. But in this respect he has lost no ground to Billy Conn, who has known the same long recess.

"The thing I have to do," Joe told us, "is to get the best out of what I have today. These years that go by don't help your speed any, but they don't take much away from your punch. After all, 32 ain't so old. And I never was any too fast on my feet."

This is true. The Bomber's speed was in his two fists, wherein he made one think of a two-headed rattlesnake. His hands probably don't operate with the same speed today, but when they land the same power should be on the job. However, the ability to handle the landing operation also is a big part of offense. Jack Dempsey found that out after he had been on top for seven years. *B'ham, Ala.*

* * *

LOUIS NOW has four weeks left—four weeks in which he must remove at least eight or 10 pounds. This won't be too difficult when a warmer sun begins to offer its help. The harder job in these four weeks will be to regain the sharpness, the timing and the punching accuracy that knew their peak from 1937 through 1941. But the one lost factor that no fighter can regain is the detail of waning reflexes. This means the subconscious ability to punch as soon as the opening develops—to achieve the split-second team play of mind, sight and muscle.

"Against Tunney," Jack Dempsey told me once, "I could see the opening as quickly as I ever could, but the message came from my eyes to my fists just a little slower. It meant the difference between landing a punch and having it blocked."

You can write it down as a sure thing that in this respect Louis will suffer the same fate that others knew as the years slipped by. His only chance to have retained part of this reflex action would have come from more actual competition, which the war blocked off.

"I've done a lot of boxing since the war came on," Joe says, "but none of it was the same as a ring fight. All this, however, with some golf, has kept my legs in shape. I've done so much road work for the last 10 years that I don't have to worry about my legs. My job for the next four weeks will be to sharpen up, to get more weight off, and to be ready to punch as fast as I can when the chance comes."

Louis has knocked out every fighter he has faced in the past who came back for a second shot. The fact that five years have intervened since he last met Conn may make a difference in the way of a return. This five-year interval of inaction can make a big difference on either side.

Hello, Joe, Watcha Know?

June 19. Says Oma must be figured in and is going to try to get the State Commission to conduct an elimination tournament.

Mike Jacobs is in Florida . . . American League baseball teams will play a record 277 Spring exhibition games this year . . . Joe Sheeketski has left Notre Dame to take the line coaching job under Eddie Anderson at Iowa . . . Hugh Devore turned down an offer of 15 grand when he said no thanks to St. Bonaventure. Which makes one wonder where he *is* going to coach in '46. Fordham? I doubt it? Georgetown? Possibly.

Army has entered 10 individuals and a mile relay team in the 39th annual Millrose Games at the Garden Feb. 2 . . . Doc Blanchard is among 'em, putting the shot . . . Capt. Tom Hamilton, new Navy coach, will get the New York Touchdown Club's annual award for '45. And what ever became of all those stories that Annapolis was going to forsake the old school tie coaching system? 1-25-46

The Dodgers are interested in several more Negro ball players and it was nice indeed to hear Bill Corum get serious at the Boxing Writers dinner and say what a fine thing it is that the Negro is getting a chance and looking over at Horace Stoneham and saying he felt sure he felt the same way about it and would drop the bars.

And under the department of f... & forget, you can put down the quote from Max Machon, who trained Schmeling during most of Der Schlager's career: "Schmeling will fight again, despite the knee injury he suffered in paratroop service . . . And Conn should have no trouble with Louis."

It gives me a bit of a laugh when he adds that Louis never has been the same since he took that beating from Schmeling in 1936. And I wonder how Max has been since he almost got murdered by Joe and screamed for mercy before he was stopped in the first round?

Tex Sullivan, who manages Lee Oma, says there's a plot afoot to match Mauriello, Baksi, or Lesnevich with Louis, if he beats Conn

the title could change hands.

In fact, the heavyweight champion is the only ring champion whose title is at stake every time he steps into a ring, no matter how many pounds he or his opponent is toting around, and the scales gave Louis no protection when he met such weighty problems as Abe Simon and Buddy Baer.

LOUIS OUTWEIGHS CONN BY LOTS

Atlanta Constitution

2-17-46

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—(AP) Joe Louis weighs about 220 and Billy Conn in the 190s, so unless they start the whittling process pretty soon their bout next June is liable to be an overweight match, with the chief difference from other overweight matches being that

Louis' Old Pilot Must Stay in Jail

Atlanta Constitution

DETROIT, Jan. 28.—(AP)—The state parole board in a special meeting today decided that John Roxborough, former manager of heavyweight champion Joe Louis is entitled to no consideration looking to his early release from prison. Ga. 1-29-46

The board's action means Roxborough will not become eligible for release from prison until Oct. 4, nearly four months after the scheduled Louis-Billy Conn fight next June 19.

Roxborough is serving a two and one-half year term on a gambling charge.

Miles Isn't Manager

'ROXBOROUGH IS STILL MY PILOT'--LOUIS

Pittsburgh Courier

Philadelphia Penn

2-9-46

NEW YORK—Marshall Miles, popular Buffalo sportsman, and friend of Joe Louis, will not manage the heavyweight champion for his coming fight with Billy Conn, as reported by the daily newspapers last week, The Pittsburgh Courier learned from an unconfirmed but authentic source here Monday.

An acting camp manager has not been named, the report indicated, but John Roxborough is still the power behind the throne in the Louis heavyweight kingdom and that same "father and son" relationship which obtained during Joe's climb up the titular trail, still exists.

Pittsburgh Courier

JOE LOYAL TO JOHN

The champ himself, on a recent visit to Pittsburgh told The Courier's "Ches" Washington that he still had a deep feeling of loyalty to "Roxie," who had "helped him when he couldn't help himself"—in Joe's own words.

When someone reminded Joe that Roxborough, with his shrewdness, and Louis, with his willingness to listen and learn, had made a great combination and helped each other a great deal, Joe modestly replied: "Roxie did a lot more for me than I did for him!" 2-9-46

OLD CAMPMATE RETURNS

Meanwhile steps are being taken to see that Joe's best interests will be zealously guarded as he trains for the big June battle. One of the first moves was the recalling of Freddie Guinyard, one of his former aides.

Plans are being completed for Joe's sojourn at French Lick Springs, Ind., beginning March 1, where he will launch his preliminary drills. Following this the champ will go to Pompton Lakes where he will engage in his final boxing workouts prior to the titular fight with Billy Conn on June 19.

LOOKING EM OVER

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

With SAM LACY

Joe Louis tells me he read my "burnt-cork" column about him, in which I questioned the wisdom of the champ's tour of one-night stands on the jitterbug circuit.

Says the Bomber: "I'm a professional, Sam, and I think am entitled to make money in any honest way I can. I can't see that I should have to fight all the time, if there's an honest dollar to be turned somewhere else.

"I'm a boxer, it's true, but that doesn't mean that I should be confined to the ring. Sullivan, Corbett, Dempsey, Fitzsimmons, nearly all the old champions did vaudeville stuff. And they did a lot of it in preference to defending the title. I'm not going to do that. No matter how much I do this sort of thing, I'll always be available for a fight." 2-2-46

Incidentally, Jimmy Cannon (N.Y. Post) did a piece shortly after mine in which he said Joe's broke. Broke, Cannon asserted, "because he's a soft touch for any kind of hard luck story that's handed him.

"He doesn't have to know you," Cannon declared, "as long as you have a hard luck tale you can get a handout from the champ. Mike Jacobs has lectured him repeatedly about holding on to his money, but it doesn't do any good."

It so happens that I know, personally, Joe has provided handsomely for Jacqueline, the daughter who'll be 3 years old next month, and who's with her mother, Marva, in Chicago.

JOE LOUIS HERE FOR REST

New York Times

Champion Plans to Start Work on March 1 for Conn Bout

2-2-46

Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion, returned to New York yesterday, having completed a national tour, and began thinking about the important matter of conditioning himself for his first post-war defense of the title, against Billy Conn on June 19.

The Brown Bomber plans to rest for a week, then move on to Los Angeles for a visit before proceeding to French Lick Springs, Ind., around March 1, to begin the long training grind.

After the preliminary work at French Lick he will go to Pompton Lakes, N. J., around May 1 and buckle down to a heavy program until a day or so before the fight in the Yankee Stadium. Louis weighs about 220 pounds now and expects to hit 209 or 210 on the day of the battle. 2-7-46

The champion, it was announced at the offices of the Twentieth Century S. C., will attend Monday night's boxing program at the St. Nicholas Arena, when Holman Williams, his middleweight protégé from Detroit, meets Aaron (Tiger) Wade of San Francisco in the feature ten-round bout.

Why Is A Fighter?

Age Herald Birmingham

Professional fighters, boxers, are nice guys as a rule. They do their jobs in a workmanlike manner, if their opponents will let them. They have plans of attack, follow through, they know what to do in many situations calling for quick thought and action.

But one thing about fighters has puzzled us for a long, long time. Why is it that, when they are approaching a bout, fighters invariably start talking about how good they are? Some do it more loudly than others, but all of them do this to one extent or another.

Consider the fellow named Galento, for instance. He quaffed his beer and in a sudsy baritone declared, "I'll moider da bum!" Joe Louis, quiet, calm, usually managed to say something about his confidence that he would be able to win. 2-11-46

But now consider young Billy Conn (28) who in June meets the champion. Listen as Mr. Conn says: "Five years are a big strike against him (Louis), and I'm a better fighter than I was when we met before. I'm bigger, stronger and a lot smarter."

Well, now! That's big advertising. But suppose football stars said things like that—or football coaches (who, as everyone knows, are extremely pessimistic). Imagine Wedemeyer or Gilmer saying, "I'll walk through those guys. I've improved a lot during the last week's training. I didn't eat any pie at all, and I've got my footwork down nicely. Say, just watch me sidestep! Just watch me stiff-arm that fellow. Feel my leg muscles!"

That would be a fine howdy-do, wouldn't it? *Birmingham Ala.*

Or consider the plodding, average man, whoever he may be. Say he is a salesman at a tie counter in a department store. He meets a newspaper man who is looking for a shirt and tops by the tie counter by mistake. "Ah, see here," says the tie salesman, "I'm going to sell more ties today than a champion hog caller ever called hogs. I'm witty, charming, gay and convincing today. You just watch me—stick around and watch me as I dazzle these people with my salesmanship. These lovely blue cravats—just watch me sell them by the dozen, and harken as the mellifluous syllables are poured forth!"

But fighters always do that sort of thing and nobody seems to be surprised by it. We would suggest a congressional committee be appointed to investigate such talkative fighters. And for the chairmanship of this group to check up on talkers—

Either Sen. Bilbo or Sen. Eastland.

—Cummiskey—

A Surprise to No One

P.M. 1-17-46

It's still a long way off, but to make it official, let's get the facts down on paper.

Event: Louis vs. Conn for the world's heavyweight title.

Time & Place: June 19 at 10 p.m. in Yankee Stadium. That's Wednesday night.

Probable ringside seat scale: A hunnert clams.

Probable gate: 101,001 fans.

The announcement comes so early—five months and a few days—because, according to promoter Mike Jacobs, negotiations are completed with Larry MacPhail, Stadium president, and there's no use couldn't. It's the longest advance sitting on the news. Because he notice of a title fight in history.

Jacobs has had many offers to hold the Big One somewhere else, such as Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Chicago, Detroit, even Rio de Janeiro (no relation to Youngstown Tony J.) But after a couple of conferences with Col. Eddie Eagan, Chairman of the State Boxing Commission, who said it was Gov. Dewey's desire that the fight be held in New York, Jacobs played like he was acquiescing and made the deal.

Don't let anyone fool you: it was penciled in for New York all the time for the simple reason that this neck of the woods grows the largest number of people who can lay a hunnert on the line for a prizefight. Or a dozen nylons, if you think fights are silly.

MJ said he gave the other sites serious consideration, but on the theory that he has staged all his fights here the last several years, he feels (like the Gov. and 7,000,000 others) the people who kept the game alive during the dark years deserve what will be billed as the plum of them all.

He said MacPhail offered full co-operation, outlined to Mike the vast face-lifting the Stadium is getting now and pointed out how 100,000 fans could and would be accommodated. Jacobs, not to be outdone completely by Dewey's climb aboard this bandwagon (election year, yaknow, Toots!) said a promotion of this kind required co-operation of various branches of City government (Ah, there, Bill-O'Dee!) such as police, fire, building and others. And in no other city (Roll the drums, son!) do such

P.M.

bureaus have the experience and facilities of handling major attractions as in New York.

Mike waxed eloquent after that—if you'll pardon me for phrasing some corn—and said he has an agreement with Stadium officials to have another heavyweight title fight there between Sept. 8 and 21. It would be Conn vs. Louis if Conn wins in June, or Louis vs. the most suitable opponent if Joe wins it.

Besides that, Mike has thrown a sizable bone to Horace Stoneham and the Polo Grounds (ball parks go 50-50 anyway on all rentals) and has plans to go to Coogan's Bluff for title fights in the feather, light, welter, middle and light heavyweight divisions under the stars in '46.

All of which is very fine, but Harry Markson, Mike's tubthumper, had a pained look as he added: "And don't forget, Friday night it's Graziano vs. Horne—at the Garden, Son, that's no joke!" So be it, Harry.

—JOE CUMMISKEY

New York, N.Y. 2-17-46

LOUIS CAN NAME ROUND—TUNNEY

Atlanta Constitution

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 5.—(AP)—Former Heavyweight Champion Gene Tunney says he believes Joe Louis will knock out Billy Conn "whenever he pleases" in their world title bout next June.

Tunney and his wife stopped off here briefly en route to Cuba.

Asked if he didn't think Louis had slowed up too much to score an early kayo over his younger foe, Tunney replied negatively.

"I think Conn is the one who has slowed up. He has been out of the ring for five years, and that makes quite a difference." 2-6-46

Tunney said he thought there would be some rising boxers from the military ranks "but it will take some time for them to develop."

Atlantans Give Champion Joe Louis Great Ovation

Atlanta Daily World — Atlanta, Ga. 1-15-46

In spite of the steady downpour, thousands of Atlantans stampeded the City Auditorium, Monday night, to give Joe Louis, heavyweight champion of the world a thunderous ovation.

Appearing as the headline attraction of dynamite packed entertainment shows the Champion made it clear that he will be in the pink of condition when he fights Billy Conn in June. In fact, there was no doubt in the minds of those present that he intends to finish Conn in short order.

Ralph Cooper, superb master of ceremonies and spark-plug of the show asked Joe Louis several questions about the approaching fight and there was a round of applause when the Champion said, I'll be feeling good on the night of the fight, and I'll be doing my best."

Joe Louis was interrupted again by applause when he disclosed that he contributed purses of $189,701 and $132,431 for the Navy and Army Relief Societies, respectively. He explained that he enjoyed the three years and eight months spent in the services because it gave him an opportunity to travel and meet people.

GREAT RECORD

Ralph Cooper pointed out that Joe Louis has fought as many fights, since winning the world's heavyweight crown on June 22, 1937 as all the other heavyweight champions together.

Lovely Betti Mays, terrific swing singer added color to the show with her radiant beauty and soothing rendition of "There, I Said It Again,' and "A Kiss Good Night." Ed Curry sang the "Mumble Rumble Blues and the famous Luis Rssell's Band provided the latest swing tunes, including his original "Boogie In The Basement."

Down Mexico Way

Courier

Louis Sued by Fight Promoter

Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. Mar. 2, 1946

LOS ANGELES—Charging that the heavyweight champion failed to appear in Mexico City for a four-round exhibition match last Jan. 7, Ramon Reachi, Mexican promoter, filed a $10,000 breach of promise suit here Friday.

Claiming that Joe was supposed to appear in the Mexican capital and failed to do so, Reachi also included Mike Jacobs and the Twentieth Century Club as defendants in the suit. 7-3-46

During the month of January, when Reachi claimed Joe was due in Mexico City, the champion was "doing his number" with Luis Russell's orchestra, which toured major cities of the Midwest and South.

In This Corner

Daily Worker New York, New York

Labor Will Kayo Jimcrow, Says Joe Louis

— Bill Mardo —

Tues 2-26-46

That heavyweight king Joe Louis is as much a champion in his role of Private Citizen, was more than borne out anew yesterday in an interview with Gertrude Stoughton of the **Daily People's World** in Los Angeles.

But suppose we allow our California colleague to tell you the story just as she got it from the great Negro battler:

* * *

Joe Louis, heavyweight champion of the world, will not make any predictions about his forthcoming fight with Billy Conn, but he does predict that relations between Negro and white Americans are going to improve greatly within the next few years. And Louis says that organized labor is going to make the difference.

He repeated this statement twice, sitting before an open fire in the home of a friend here. The huge fighter, still damp from being caught in the rain during a golf workout, was being interviewed by the **Daily People's World, The Pittsburgh Courier** and a young Swedish news correspondent.

JOE LOUIS

I asked him if he thought army experience was helping to break down prejudice and he shrugged.

"No, I'd say it was labor," he answered.

The champ seemed thoroughly glad to be away from the army, "out from army orders," as he said.

"It's too bad they killed the FEFC bill in the Senate," he declared, but he didn't seem discouraged about it.

He was interested to hear about the campaign to put FEPC on the ballot here in California.

Louis had flown to Los Angeles to take part in the Negro athletic awards dinner sponsored by **The Pittsburgh Courier** to raise scholarship funds for young Negro athletes.

"I never run into any discrimination myself," he said, "never. But I know how hard it is on the way up. I wish all my people had the same chances I have had."

Boxing is one sport where a man really gets a chance if he's good, Louis said.

"In the boxing game, everybody's equal," he put it.

"If you can fight, you'll get ahead."

He was pleased to see the baseball Jimcrow tradition broken by Jackie Robinson and said he thought the whole field of sports "would soon open up."

Louis goes into training March 7 at French Lick, Ind., for his bout with Conn, which will be held in New York's Yankee Stadium in June.

In spite of his long string of championship victories, he won't brag beforehand.

"I can't tell what I'll do when I get in there," he said. "All I know is that I'm going to try hard."

The strong pro-labor sentiments expressed by Joe Louis in the above interview doesn't come as any surprise to those who've been closely following Joe's career. From the time he first burst into prominence, the quiet-spoken boxer has made no bones about where he stands politically. Joe has never for a moment forgotten the miserable life he and his folks led in the Buckalew mountain region of Alabama, where the Barrows picked cotton on a 120-acre of rocky soil. Joe has never forgotten the jam-packed tenement house he lived in during his teen-years in the Negro section of Detroit. And Joe Louis learned many lessons as an assembly-line worker in the Ford plant.

Through the years Joe Louis has always identified himself with the struggles of the Negro people and the working class as a whole. Whether it was while kayoing Hitler's superman myth in the guise of Max Schmeling; whether it was in reminding his people that they had as great a stake as any other minority group in fighting the anti-Axis war: ("Sure there's plenty of things wrong in America, but Hitler ain't gonna fix them."); or whether it was in personally endorsing Ben Davis for reelection to the City Council; or as yesterday, in hailing labor as the greatest fighters for the end of Jimcrow—but always, Joe Louis has been a great champion of the common man.

And there's no doubt that in the critical days ahead, long after his gloves have been hung up, Joe Louis will be punching ever harder and faster. For labor, democracy and a new world-a-coming.

Louis' Manager Must Stay in Jail

Pittsburg, Pa. — Courier

By JOHN R. WILLIAMS

DETROIT—In a special meeting Monday, the State Parole Board denied the application of John Roxborough for release from Michigan State Prison at Jackson. In view of the decision, Roxborough will not be eligible for release until next October, the date when he might ordinarily be paroled with special allowances for good behavior. Leonard Scharr, spokesman for the Parole Board, told The Pittsburgh Courier, "At the close of Monday's meeting, the petition for the release of John Roxborough and Everett Watson was denied by a close vote at our special meeting. If we let Roxborough out, we would have to do it for all the other grand jury cases." 2-2-46

Joe Louis Intends To Tag Conn Early

COLUMBUS, Ohio. — (NNPA)—"I'm going to try tagging Billy Conn early when we meet in our coming fight. If I can help it there will be no waiting around until the late rounds," said Joe Louis, in his recent visit to this city.

"I hope to catch him early," said Joe. "I figure that if I knock him out early it will save me some trouble catching up with him. I should be able to catch him with a hard punch, and if I do, he won't be so willing and able to fly around the ring. Louis is still on tour with the Luis Russell dance orchestra.

2-1-46

Louis Gives Sparmates Going Over

Richmond Times Dispatch — Richmond, Va.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., May 11—(AP)—Joe Louis, gradually getting in condition for his world heavyweight title defense against Billy Conn next month, floored one spar mate today, bloodied the nose of another and battered two more a round each in a vicious workout.

With Promoter Mike Jacobs, of New York, looking on, Louis sent Al Hoosman to the resin with a left hook, drew blood from Jimmy Bell's nose in the next frame before slugging it out with Turk Daniels and George Fitch.

For the first time in 11 days, Louis did no road work before climbing into into the ring, his trainers feeling he was losin weight too rapidly. Louis, however, will box again tomorrow.

Jacobs stopped at Conn's Greenwood Lake, N. J., camp en route here and watched the challenger in a sharp workout at the expense of Jim Neville, Mickey McAvoy and Mickey Beluscio.

Louis accepts honorary chairmanship from veterans

Los Angeles Tribune — Calif. Sat. 3-23-46

CHICAGO — (CNS) — World's heavyweight champion Joe Louis this week accepted an honorary chairmanship of the Negro Veterans' Conference for Organization and Action to be held here April 6-7. He will be the honored speaker at the conference April 6th, at DuSable high school.

Louis-Conn Title Bout Goes to Yankee Stadium

Louisville, Ky. Thursday

Jacobs Predicts Bout Slated June 19 to Draw Greatest Gate, Surpassing 2-Million Mark

Courier-Journal

New York, Jan. 16 (AP)—Louis and Billy Conn will tangle in their "hot" heavyweight championship return match in Yankee Stadium, New York, on Wednesday night, June 19, and Promoter Mike Jacobs predicted today it probably will draw the greates gate in fistic history. 1-17-46

To the surprise of exactly no one, Uncle Mike broke down and confessed that the second showing of the Louis-Conn beak-busting would take place just where it was expected, and that the Pittsburgh pretty boy would get his second shot at Joe's crown just five years and one day after the first fuss in 1941.

In that one, Conn came closer than any other challenger to dethroning the Brown Bomber, until Joe put the lights out for him in the 13th round. That was in the Polo Grounds, across the Harlem river from the stadium, before a crowd of 60,071 and a gate of $451,743—14th largest in ring history.

CHICKEN FEED

According to Mike, though, that "take" will be just chicken feed for the second go-round—an event that has long been expected to keynote sports' post-war champagne-and-caviar area. He explained that with improvements now being put into the stadium, the huge Bronx ballyard would be able to seat more than 100,000 customers for a fight.

And with a $100 ringside "touch" in prospect, Mike thinks the chances are the total "contribution" will go right by the all-time high $2,658,660 tossed into the pot by 104,943 fans who sat in on the second Jack Dempsey-Gene Tunney tussle in Chicago 19 years ago. Gus Fan had to pay $40 to see that one from a ringside pew.

Beside that, only one other fight ever drew more than 100,000 fans—the first Tunney-Dempsey doings in Philadelphia, which played to 120,757. The stadium has been host to three million-dollar brawls, headed by the $1,083,530 chipped in for the

AP Wirephoto.

MAPPING BOUT—Promoter Mike Jacobs studies a plan of Yankee Stadium, the site of the Joe Louis-Billy Conn title fight June 19.

Jack Dempsey-Jack Sharkey scramble in 1927. The other two were Louis' return bout with Max Schmeling and his punch-party with Max Baer. Needless to say, Joe made it a quick night's work in each case.

LOGICAL SITE 1-17-46

"I have long felt that New York was the logical site," Jacobs said. "But I received many tempting offers from other cities and I felt these offers deserved my consideration."

Before making the final decision, Mike held a series of huddles with New York State Athletic Commission Chairman Eddie Eagan, who told him that "it was the earnest desire of Governor Dewey that the long-waited title event take place in New York." And, Mike pointed out, you can't do any good bucking the governor.

Jacobs said the Yankee Stadium also will be available for a fight between September 8 to 21, indicating that should Conn win the return bout there still would be a third between the two, and that if Louis repeats over Billy he would tangle with another opponent during that time. Mike said Conn would train at Greenwood Lake, N. J., and Louis at Pompton Lakes, N. J.

23D DEFENSE

Joe's last stadium appearance was in 1940 when he belted out Arturo Godoy in eight rounds of their return go, after Arturo had gone the 15-round derby route with him earlier. The second Conn affair will be the 23d defense in Joe's record run as king of the nose-mashers, starting after he took the championship from Jim Braddock.

He last put it on the line on March 27, 1942, when he took ampie Abe Simon apart in six rounds for the benefit of Army Emergency Relief. Since then, Joe, like Conn, has been wearing a soldier suit and both have put on hundreds of exhibitions in various Army theaters—here and overseas.

Both recently were discharged. Conn is now trying to peel off pounds in Hot Springs, Ark., while Joe has been on tour with a jive band.

Denies Contract Breach

New York Times, N.Y.

LOS ANGELES, April 2 (UP)—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis today denied a $10,000 breach of contract damage suit brought by Ramon Reachi, sports promoter, by claiming there wasn't any contract to breach.

In his suit, Reachi charged that Louis and his manager-promoter, Mike Jacobs, signed a contract for the fighter to make four two-minute exhibition bout appearances in Mexico City last Feb. 5. Reichi said Louis was to get 45 per cent of the proceeds, but Louis and Jacobs canceled the contract without cause. Wed 4-3-46.

Attorneys Jerry Giesler and Meyer M. Gillner, acting for Louis, filed a denial claiming such a contract was discussed and drawn up but Jacobs returned it to Reachi unsigned because of previous commitments.

Louis is now training for his title fight with Billy Conn.

"No Horses, No Horseplay", Says Champion Joe Louis At West Baden for Work

Louisville, Ky. 3-9-46
Courier-Journal

West Baden, Ind., March 8.—There won't be any horses or horse play in the training camp of **Joe Louis**, heavyweight boxing champion. . . . The shining Brown Bomber arrived shortly after noon by car from Chicago. . . . "I'm going to take it easy for a week," he said, "then get down to real work. I've been out of boxing four years and that's a long time. Starting next week I'll do my road work at daybreak. I'll get a rub-down, then have breakfast. I'll do some walking and ball playing during the morning and maybe some more late in the afternoon." . . . A listener suggested that Joe might devote his afternoons to horseback riding. "I hear you are shipping in your own saddle horses from your farm at Utica, Mich., he said. . . . "No sir," Joe replied. "Not for a long time, anyway. This time training is work. No horses or horseplay." . . . The champion was almost 24 hours late in arriving. Reporters and photographers beat a tattoo on the side door of the Waddy Hotel until after midnight last night, and were back again this morning at 7. . . . With Joe in his car were **Freddy Guinyard**, his secretary of many years; **Manny Seaman**, his trainer, and **Fred Wilson**, sparring partner, who will accompany the champion on his road rambles. . . . "We got tired," Joe explained, "and stayed all night at Indianapolis." . . . A personal friend of the owner, Joe took over the entire frame hotel, using 10 of its 38 rooms. . . . The West Baden phase of the champion's training for his championship bout with Challenger **Billy Conn** in New **York** June 19, will end April 26. The second phase will begin May 1 at Pompton Lakes, N. J. . . . I asked him, for Officer **Joe Martin**, Louisville amateur boxing genius, if Martin's kids might come up and watch him work out some morning. . . . "I won't put on a glove here," he said, "but in about two weeks tell those boys to come on up. I'll show 'em something." Louis weighs about 218 pounds and is 31 years old (will be 32 on May 13). He looks as powerful as ever, though slightly overweight. 3-9-46 3-9-46

AP Photo.

Mrs. Nanie Waddy greets Champion Joe Louis.

Not Louis, Conn, but Bivins Best Heavy, Says Johnston

New York, Jan. 2 (INS).—As of now, the best heavyweight in the world is neither the champion of the world, Joe Louis, nor his worthy and estimable opponent, Billy Conn.

This was unequivocally stated today by James J. Johnston, ageless relic from the gaslit era of boxing's ribald past.

More oddly, the man in question isn't even one of Mr. Johnston's sterling performers of superb and unparalleled skill,

He is Jimmy Bivins, the Clevelander, who Johnston thinks can be a better fighter than Louis—any time Bivins thinks so. Bivins, a man who clearly can take his thinking or let it resolutely alone, is sometimes recognized as the No. 3 heavyweight.

"He's No. 1!"

Johnston corrected in a gentle rasp that made Popeye sound like a boy soprano. "He's No. 1. He would beat Louis, if he knew the champion for what he is—only an un-hollow shell, full of suet and chowder.

"As for Conn, he couldn't hurt Bivins. So he wouldn't win. It's as simple as that."

Mr. Johnston then launched into a tirade against some of the present-day white heavyweight prospects whom he disdained as too conceited and "dame-happy" to subject their features to a necessary re-arrangement in the training ring.

"Won't Train, Lazy, Etc."

"As I was saying," the gentleman interposed, hurriedly, "the big bloke who's free, white and 21 isn't always an asset any more. Unless he changes his ideas, in fact, the species of white heavyweights is liable to become extinct.

"He won't train. He's too lazy, too bored with himself. He won't try to improve his hitting. To do that, he has to stand and trade punches in the gymnasium—and trading means that he may get his nose curled, with maybe a hint of hanging-eyebrow.

"He won't go for that. It hampers his routine with the dames. That's all he thinks about, dames. And every time he thinks of them in the ring, he ducks. That's enough for Johnston.

"From now on, I'm ducking him."

But not permanently, of course. Nothing is permanent with Mr. Johnston. Not even hardening of the arteries.

THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

And Now It Is Black's Time To Tell The Public Something

Chicago-Defender, Ill.

HARDLY HAD THE ink dried on the story that Marshall Davis Miles of Buffalo had been named the new manager of Joe Louis, the world heavyweight champion, than things began to happen.

First, over the radio, came the report that Louis said that John Roxborough of Detroit, but now resting in the Jackson, Mich., prison where he is serving a sentence resulting from an investigation into the Detroit gambling racket, was still his manager.

That caused some speculation as Louis had, in picking his friend, Miles, dumped Roxborough and Julian A. Black of Chicago, overboard. They had been his co-managers, had steered him to the world championship with the shrewd help of the late Jack Blackburn, who was his trainer.

Then Saturday morning, a press release out of Buffalo quoted Miles as saying he was managing Louis until Roxborough was released from prison.

All of which don't make sense.

Fay Young

Chicago. Defender

ROXBOROUGH AND BLACK had kept Louis from "popping off." Consequently, the Brown Bomber was always pictured as the champion who had little to say. He was about as famous for his reticence as he was for his devastating knockout punch.

Roxborough went to prison along with 26 others including the former mayor of Detroit. He asked the pardon board of Michigan for a parole two weeks ago and it was denied principally on the grounds that if the board turned John loose they would have the right to set all the others free.

John wanted to be in Louis' corner for the world title bout with Pittsburgh's Billy Conn Wednesday, June 19. The Michigan pardon board wasn't interested in that angle and Roxborough will be freed on Oct. 4.

The thing that sort of puzzles the writer is how do Louis and Miles come to the conclusion that Roxborough will again be Louis' manager after Oct. 4? 2-16-46

According to our recollection, the state athletic commissions refused to allow Jack Johnson a license to box after he had served a federal prison term. Ill.

About that time it was written into the laws governing most boxing commissions that no one who had served a prison term could be granted a fighter's license, a license to manage fighters or a license to second fighters. The list of commissions include those in the states of Illinois, New York, Missouri and Pennsylvania.

* * * Sat.

LOUIS, AFTER A visit with Mike Jacobs in New York on Wednesday last, said Black's contract as manager expired "after my fight with Billy Conn in 1941. He was still my manager until I signed a new contract last year. That contract was with John Roxborough."

The Brown Bomber said the reason he dropped Black was that "Julian was too busy to look after my interests."

Julian has kept rather quiet on the subject. He is expected to have a few things to say on the matter soon. His friends hint that Joe is ungrateful. They also say the champion refused to heed to Julian's advice and had he done so he wouldn't be in debt to anybody, much less the government.

Billy Conn To Open Training For June Bout With Bomber

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Jan. 4—(AP)—Billy Conn will go into training here tomorrow for his heavyweight championship fight next June with Joe Louis, a battle the Pittsburgh challenger is confident he will win.

Accompanied by his trainer, Fred Fierro, and his manager, Milton Jaffee, Conn arrived here this afternoon for a five-week training grind, which will include hiking over Arkansas mountains, golfing, hot-water bathing and gym and road workouts.

He will work out at the Fordyce Bathhouse Gymnasium and will do his road work on Oaklawn Park's race track.

"I fully expect to win this fight with Louis," declared the Pittsburgh Kid, who almost did the trick in 1941 before he and the Brown Bomber entered the service.

Conn lost that one on a knockout in the 13th round when he became over-anxious. Until that heat the Pittsburgh battler appeared to be on the long end of the point count.

The 23-year-old title challenger, who spent three years in the Army and Army Air Corps, already is in excellent physical condition but thinks he's too heavy at 193 pounds. He hopes to scale down to 180 before breaking camp here next month.

After leaving Hot Springs, Conn plans to return to Pittsburgh before going to an unselected Eastern training camp.

Trainer Fierro agreed with his fighter as to the outcome of the June scrap. He thinks Conn is a "sure thing."

The handsome Conn said he believed the June fight, for which neither a definite date nor site has been selected, would be staged at New York's Yankee Stadium.

The fighter also trained here five years ago.

Dempsey Says Age Won't Hurt Louis In Fight With Conn

Oklahoma City — Black Dispatch

ST. LOUIS — (ANP) — Age will not hurt Joe too much in his approaching fight with Conn, said Jack Dempsey, former world heavyweight champion, here last week.

Jack declined to predict a winner at this early date, but expressed doubt the fight will break the record $2,285,000 gate set by his bout with Tunney in Chicago, which attracted 125,000 persons at Soldiers field stadium.

"Contrary to many people's impression," Dempsey said, "army service won't keep an athlete in shape. It'll be three months before experts will be able to tell much about the Conn-Louis bout and the final result will depend on how they round into shape right down to the final day."

The war-time layoff undoubtedly hurt Louis and Conn, Dempsey said. 2-2-46

"Their mental attitude for fighting can't be the same as if they had been boxing during the last five years. Of course, every man is different, so it remains to be seen how they'll come along."

Dempsey explained that he started fighting "in 1910 and having fought for so long, it's only natural that I would have used up more energy than a fighter who hadn't boxed as long a time. Joe will not be as handicapped as it was for him the last time he met Tunney when he was the same age approximately as Louis is now, around 32, said Jack.

Louis' temperament, being more placid and unexcitable, will be a helpful factor in his Conn fight, Dempsey prophesied.

Brown Bomber in N.Y. for One Week's Rest

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK — Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis arrived in the city Thursday night to begin a week's rest prior to opening his French Lick, Ind., training camp for the Billy Conn title fight.

Following a week here, he will go to Los Angeles for a brief visit, then on to his preliminary conditioning on March 1. 2-9-46

The Bomber was non-committal on charges that Mike Jacobs's activity as his manager creates an unhealthy situation in boxing.

LOUIS TO SCALE 208 FOR TITLE CONTEST

New York Times, New York, N.Y.

Brown Bomber Taking It Easy at West Baden—Weighs 219 After Two Weeks There

Sun. 3-24-46

WEST BADEN, Ind., March 23 (AP)—Deprived of one meal and required to walk eight miles every day, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis has succeeded in losing one whole pound in two weeks of preliminary training for his June title bout with Billy Conn.

Louis weighed 219 yesterday, but his handlers said they weren't a bit worried. They are counting Louis' stay here only a rest period, and figure the Brown Bomber will get down to the serious business of losing poundage when he moves to Pompton Lakes, N. J., in a few weeks.

Chops, Steak and Fish

The champion has been eating his two meals a day at ten in the morning and five in the evening, but it doesn't show on the scales. His usual bill of fare of lamb chops, steak and fish may have something to do with it.

The fish come from Orange County streams, but Louis doesn't catch them. The champion puts in a lot of his loafing time watching youngsters fish, and some of the catch usually finds its way to his table.

The subject of boxing isn't mentioned very often in the Louis camp. Joe spars a little now and then, and his trainer, Mannie Seamon, points out his errors, but most of the attention is devoted to other matters.

Hikes After Meals

Louis takes a four-mile hike after each meal, the closest thing to serious conditioning on his program. His schedule includes a round of golf at a neighboring links whenever the weather permits. His latest score is 76.

Seamon says Louis will scale about 207 or 208 when he enters the ring against Conn. This is about five pounds heavier than his usual pre-war fighting weight, but Seamon points out this is because he added half an inch to his height while he was in the Army.

Conn Down to 190 Pounds

PITTSBURGH, March 23 (AP)—Billy Conn, heavyweight title challenger, will not begin training for another ten days, but he's already knocked off ten pounds.

Billy, by way of limbering up, has been taking it out on sparring partners at the Pittsburgh Lyceum. Sun. 3.24.46

"I'm down to 190 now," he reported. "I want to weigh 182 when I get in the ring with Joe."

The Pittsburgh Irishman will open training quarters at Greenwood Lake, N. J., April 2.

On Racial Amity — Regrettable Incident

Journal & Guide, Norfolk, Va.

Reprinted from Portsmouth (Va.) Star

JOE LOUIS, the world heavyweight champion, is a credit to the Negro race and a fine American.

In every utterance and in his every action, Joe Louis has made all Americans proud of him. 1-26-46

Long before he interrupted his boxing career to volunteer for long and arduous service in the U. S. Army, Joe Louis had won the hearts of the American public and has been a great influence for racial amity.

Because Joe Louis has been such a real and creditable American, it was painful to thoughtful spectators who witnessed the unfortunate reception which he was accorded when he entered the Portsmouth ferry terminal yesterday on his way to Norfolk.

The heavyweight champion deposited his nickle in the slot and, seeing the newsstand, walked over to buy some magazines. He was a stranger to Virginia and to the Norfolk-Portsmouth ferries and did not know that members of his race are segregated to a waiting room of their own where they may purchase articles at the ferry concession.

When his attention had been called to racial segregation, and Louis was returning to enter the colored waiting room corridor, an employee of the ferries affronted him with taunting and unseemly language, bearing upon Louis' failure to recognize ferry segregation regulations.

To the credit of Joe Louis he did not reply to the man's verbal attack. Louis, on the other hand, answered with eloquent silence and continued on his way in compliance with segregation regulations at the ferry terminal.

It is such instances as Joe Louis' brush with a tactless citizen which encourage racial discord at a time when the nation is in need of understanding.

1-26-46

Joe Louis Joins American Legion

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

FRENCH LICK, Ind.—(ANP)—Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion, joined Peter Salem Post 45, Louisville's only Negro American Legion post, here last week during a district legion meeting near his West Baden training camp. Louis, an army sergeant, was recently named honorary chairman of a national veterans group. Tues. 4-9-46

63c 1946 Joe Louis (Conn)

THE SPORTS BEAT

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

By WENDELL SMITH

3-16-14

Louis' Legs Important Item . . . . .

Joe Louis' successful defense of his priceless heavyweight crown does not depend upon the power encased in his dynamite-laden fists but, rather, in the durability of his well-proportioned legs. The general concensus of opinion is that the Bomber still has enough explosive power in his fists to belt Conn right out of spacious Yankee Stadium. But whether or not his legs will permit him to move around and catch up with "Ballet Billy" is a question no one can definitely answer.

Earl Carroll, the famous Follies producer, used to say that "the legs have it." That statement might just as easily be applied to the Louis-Conn fight. The legs have it—the answer to the winner of this coming three or four million-dollar fight. Joe's gams must be perfectly conditioned for this fight. He must be able to stay up on his toes and follow the evasive Conn with a tenacious persistency. In the last melee, Conn did a beautiful job of moving around and kept out of Louis' range. He did that for twelve rounds, only to succumb in the thirteenth. At least three times before he went down for the count, Conn was in serious trouble. But each time he "danced" out of danger and came back brilliantly. In the second round, for instance, the Champion caught the Pittsburgh challenger on the ropes and gave him a good going over. But the game Irishman managed to get out of that trap and kept out of further trouble until his noggin cleared. The same thing happened in the sixth and ninth rounds. Louis couldn't get a clear shot at fast-moving Billy in either instance.

Veteran athletes will tell you that their legs are what made them veterans. Ty Cobb, for example, was still a good hitter when he quit baseball. "I retired," Cobb said, "because my legs couldn't stand the strenuous exercise. There was nothing wrong with my eyes or upper part of my body. I could throw and hit with the rawest rookie, but I couldn't run with him."

JOE LOUIS' LEGS

They will determine whether or not he beats Billy Conn in June.

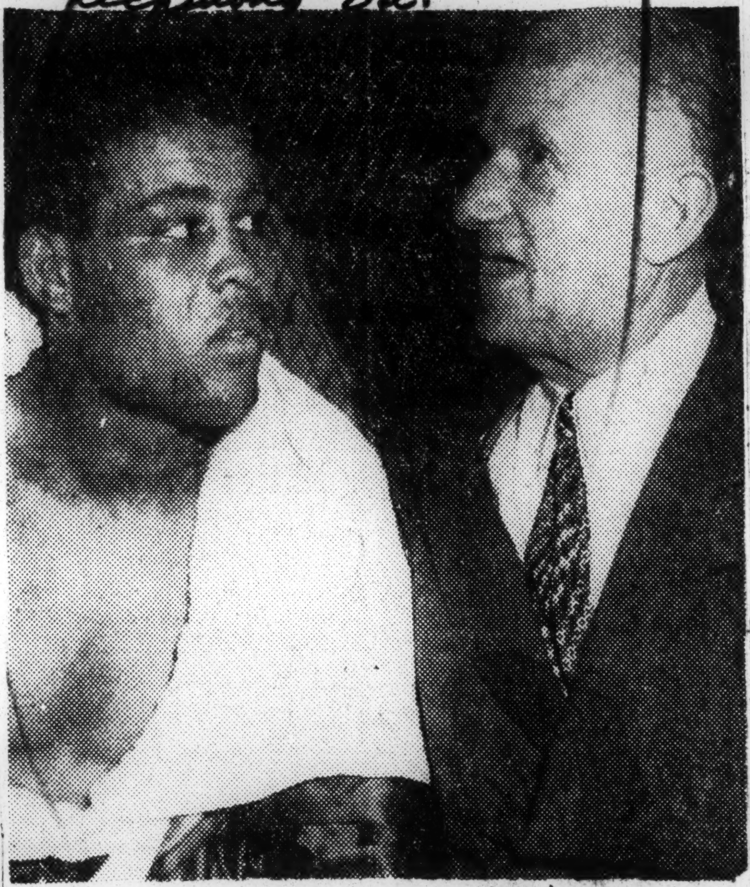
When Jack Dempsey lost that famous "long count" bout to Tunney in Chicago, he blamed his failure to come through and regain his title on his under-pins. "When I floored Tunney," Dempsey said, "I prayed he wouldn't get up because I knew I'd have to chase him. When he got up and started running, my legs wouldn't respond. I knew I could floor him again if I could catch him. Tunney got up and started running around me in circles. I couldn't get him because my legs were tired and weary. If they had been strong and willing, Tunney would have never won that fight."

The comparison between Louis and Conn and Dempsey and Tunney is similar. Louis, like Dempsey, is the slugger, the power puncher. Conn is the "Fancy Dan." Like Tunney, he is a clever boxer and wins by out-pointing his opponent. If Conn is floored by Louis and manages to get up, there is no doubt that he will do the same thing Tunney did against Dempsey. He will get up and run for dear life. Louis will then have to call upon his legs. He must catch the fleeing challenger, corner him and shoot the works. He chased Conn for twelve rounds the last time. This time he will be at least four years older and so will his legs. Will he be able to catch up with "Sweet William?" One thing is in Joe's favor. He has been exercising enough to keep his legs in fairly good shape. An ardent golfer, Louis has spent hours upon hours on the golf links. The walking has been good for his legs. Just how good, however, no one knows, with the possible exception of the Champion himself. But, as we said at the beginning, Joe's chances of winning depend entirely on his bronze legs. He still has that kick in his fists—but he must also have it in his legs.

About Louis' Money

It Didn't Disappear— He Spent Most of It

The Richmond Times-Dispatch, Richmond, Va.



Champion Louis and Promoter Jacobs

NEW YORK, Jan. 18—(AP)—The great mystery of what happened to all the money Joe Louis has made in the prize rings is no mystery at all, insists Promoter Mike Jacobs who should know—Joe simply spent the dough.

"I've seen some pretty fast men with a dollar in my time," Mike reminisced, "but there's the champ. What he doesn't manage to spend, he gives away. For a man who doesn't even drink, he's a wonder."

The topic arose, as it frequently has lately, over the fact that Louis, whose fists have beat out a total earning of nearly $2,400,000 in the past 10 years, is forced at this stage to roam the provinces with a dance band to pick up a little ready cash.

Incongruous Picture

The picture that Mike proceeded to give of the big, quiet Negro's spending qualifications seemed incongruous to those who had seen Joe during his ring career. On the surface, at least, Joe has looked less like a "Good Time" Charlie than almost any fighter you could name.

"There's a lot you don't know about that fellow," Jacobs grinned. "In the first place, of course, he hasn't actually made as much money as you think. By the time his purses were cut up he made less than a million for himself, and Uncle Sam took a big slice of that. He still owes the government about $79,000, I think.

"But what he did get his hands on he spent. Joe knows how to have a good time. He's the greatest guy for picking up a check I ever saw, and he's a sucker for a touch. He hands it out $500, $1,000 at a clip. And he has to pay taxes on his touches.

Army Life Expensive.

"Know how much he spent the three years he was in the Army? One hundred grand—that I know of."

Although Mike did not enlarge, the inference seemed plain that Louis had tapped the Jacobs till for that amount. If true, then it takes only casual figuring to show that at least $179,000 will right off the top of Joe's purse when he fights Billy Conn in June. That is, after the income taxers have taken first whack. 1-19-46

"One thing ought to be straightened out," Mike continued. "There's been talk that Joe's divorce cost him a lot of dough. As a matter of fact, Marva didn't take a cent. She was just as good a sport about it as Joe was.

"I think they're going to get back together again. Joe is crazy about their little girl. He puts something into a fund for her every week. She'll be fixed no matter what happens to Joe."

After some thought, Mike decided that the late Eddie Meade, who managed Henry Armstrong when the latter was pulling down big purses before the war, qualified as runner-up to Louis in the spending league.

"His record was one night when I paid him off $28,000 and the next day before noon he was around moaning that times were hard and how about a touch," Mike said. 1-19-46

Louis Here Tonight

Now touring the country with a jive band, Joe Louis will make a personal appearance at the Mosque here tonight at 8:30 P. M. Joe will discuss his past fights and the title fight scheduled with Billy Conn for June 19 in New York's Yankee Stadium.

1-19-46

Louis to Tell Fight Secrets In Show Here

Times-Dispatch, Richmond, Va.

1-10-46

Joe Louis, world's heavyweight boxing champion, will appear in person at the Mosque on Saturday, January 19, it was announced by James Mathews, under whose local management he will be presented.

Louis, recently discharged from the armed services, will head a vareity show which includes Ralph Cooper, "Harlem's favorite movie star"; Songstress Betti Mays, and the band of Luis Russell.

The champ is making a limited tour throughout the country, playing in 25 cities before he goes into training for a bout with Billy Conn. He will re-enact some of the highlights of his career and states he will let the audience in on the manner in which he will defend his crown against the contender.

The show will be under the sponsorship of the Sammis Grotto. Tickets now are on sale at the Virginia Record Shop and Slaughter's Hotel.

Good Sale for Conn-Louis Fight

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Tickets for the Joe Louis-Billy Conn June 19 fight are going pretty fast. Already Mike Jacobs announces that 12,000 ringside tickets had been ordered by eager patrons, who are offering money orders and checks to cover their purchases at the rate of $100 a throw. However, Mike says the price scale will be announced around April 1—and will depend largely on economic conditions at the time.

3-16-46

Orders have poured in from forty states and several foreign countries. Many organizations are ordering blocks of tickets. Already, preliminary preparations are under way for the vast field seating at Yankee stadium. A force of men are piling and sorting lumber in a lumber yard in northern New Jersey and another large force are working in a nearby saw mill, cutting the wood and supports for the raised seats. He estimated there will be about 40,000 field seats in addition to the 64,000 in the stands and bleachers, which will make this in the event of a sell-out, one of the biggest fights of all times.

Louis Admits Conn Is Much Better Boxer

The Washington Post, Washington, D.C.

Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 26 (AP).—Billy Conn is a three-times better boxer than Joe Louis, says the man who should know—Joe Louis.

The Brown Bomber, visiting a friend here today, indicated in reply to questions about his June 19 title bout with Conn in the Yankee Stadium that he doesn't fear Conn the slugger but he is apprehensive of Conn the boxer.

"I hope to catch him early," said the world's champion heavyweight boxer. "I figure that if I can't knock him out early, I should catch him wit ha hard punch and rock him. That would make him quit boxing and make him slug it out with me. You know, Conn is a three-times better boxer than I am." 1-27-46

Louis is on tour with Luis Russell's dance orchestra.

Interviewed at the home of Miss Cecilia Chancellor, a school teacher, Joe was asked about rumors that he was here to be married, but he laughed off these reports with: "Miss Chancellor and I are just good friends." The once-divorced Louis previously was married to Marva Trotter.

Louis, who appears in the band's show only for a short interview each night, said the tour would end February 4, after which he planned to rest before beginning a two-month training grind, March 1, at a training cmap in Indiana.

The champion weighs 220 pounds, he said, but he anticipated no trouble in scaling down to his regular fighting figure of 206 for his defense against Conn.

PLANNING HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE BOUT

Mike Jacobs looking over blueprints of the seating arrangements in the Yankee Stadium after announcing yesterday that the Louis-Conn match would be held in the ball park on the night of June 19.

LOUIS TO MEET CONN AT STADIUM JUNE 19

Planning 40,000 Field Seats, Jacobs Expects More Than 100,000 at Title Fight

$100 TOP IS CONSIDERED

All-Time High Price Likely at Ringside—Yankee Park Also Gets Big September Bout

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Joe Louis will defend his world heavyweight boxing championship against Billy Conn, Pittsburgh challenger, in the Yankee Stadium on the night of Wednesday, June 19, it was announced yesterday by Promoter Mike Jacobs of the Twentieth Century S. C.

Announcement of the date and place for the first heavyweight title match in four years followed a meeting at which Jacobs had arranged details with President Larry MacPhail of the Yankees, in the wake of a session with Chairman Eddie Eagan of the State Athletic Commission.

In his statement, Jacobs said: "Chairman Eagan pointed out that it was the earnest desire of Governor Thomas E. Dewey that the long-awaited title event take place in New York."

Jacobs forecast a crowd in excess of 100,000 for the battle in which Conn will seek to avenge the thirteen-round knockout he suffered in an encounter with Louis on June 18, 1941, at the Polo Grounds. Improved seating accommodations now being installed in the Stadium, coupled with the fact Jacobs plans to add about 40,000 field seats, most of them elevated, insures a capacity in excess of 100,000, and Jacobs doesn't doubt for one minute that the battle will be a sell-out.

Every Seat Reserved

The promoter did not commit himself on prices, beyond saying every seat would be reserved and that the minimum admission charge would be $5. There has been talk of a $100 top for ringside seats. Such a charge would make the bout unparalleled in this respect. The highest previous ringside charge was $50 for the memorable Jack Dempsey-Georges Carpentier heavyweight championship bout at Jersey City in 1921.

Jacobs' highest admission price so far has been $40 for the first bout between Louis and Max Schmeling, on June 19, 1936, with the Detroit Negro, who later became champion, was knocked out in twelve rounds. Two years later, Louis knocked out Schmeling, and finished the German's ring career, in a sensational one-round battle. A maximum of $25 was charged for the 1941 Louis-Conn battle.

If he does adopt a $100 top, Jacobs merely will be following the example of supply and demand. Even so, only a few rows of the ringside section, perhaps three or four, may be priced at this figure.

In any event the matter has not been decided. Many details in connection with the bout remains to be appraised before the price-scale is adopted. Indeed, the bout contract itself, signed some time ago, may undergo revision in the light of existing circumstances.

Ball Park Rental 10%

Louis signed for 40 per cent and Conn for 20 per cent. With a 10 per cent rental for the ball park, under a two-year contract Jacobs holds, that does not leave much for incidentals, after taxes. Jacobs indicated he would request a recount on the fighters' percentage arrangement at a later meeting.

"I am convinced that New York has countless advantages over other cities for the staging of such an important contest," said Jacobs. "Frankly, I have long felt that New York was the logical site, but I received many tempting offers from other cities and I felt that these offers, all in good faith, deserved serious consideration. The fact remains, though, that I have staged practically all my fight promotions here over the past several years and I feel that Louis-Conn belongs here.

"I have just completed negotiations with Larry MacPhail for the use of the Stadium. Mr. MacPhail offered the fullest cooperation of the Yankee Stadium organization. I have promoted many outstanding title matches at the Stadium in the past, but I am confident that Louis-Conn will surpass anything that has gone before.

"In a promotion of this kind cooperation of various branches of the city government is necessary. These include the police, fire, building and many other departments.

Facilities Here Praised

"In no other city in the world do such bureaus have the experience for handling major attractions that New York has. The cooperation I have received in the past has always been extremely helpful and I am counting on a renewal of this cooperation to help me put over the fight."

In selecting New York as the site, a decision that was not unexpected, Jacobs rejected offers from Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit and Los Angeles. He never gave serious consideration to a couple of foreign bids.

Some time back Jacobs set $3,000,000 as a possible gate. He would not discuss this possibility again, since he was unprepared to detail his price range. However, he is looking foward to recording the heaviest gate receipts in boxing history, the $2,658,660 paid by 104,943 observers at the second Dempsey-Gene Tunney title match, staged at Chicago back in 1927.

That bout, incidentally, is one of seven that has drawn in excess of $1,000,000. It is worthy of note that Dempsey was the magnet in five of the million-dollar battles; Louis in two.

Dempsey's 1921 battle with Carpentier, under the aegis of the late Tex Rickard, drew $1,789,238 in Jersey City for the ring's first million-dollar gate. Against Luis Firpo in 1923 Dempsey drew $1,888,603. He fought Jack Sharkey in 1927, as a warm-up for the second Tunney battle, to attract a gate of $1,083,530. His first bout with Tunney, in Philadelphia in 1926, drew $1,895,733.

Louis drew $1,015,012 in his second bout against Schmeling, held in 1938, and $1,000,832 against Max Baer in 1935, when 88,150 fans were present.

In clearing the decks for the June bout, Promoter Jacobs said he selected a date with three days of clearance before and as many afterward. This will enable him to avoid conflict with any rival attraction in what he forecasts as a banner sports year. It also will enable him to start installation of temporary field seats in plenty of time to correct any difficulties and it equips him with two postponement dates against the possibility of rain.

Jacobs will follow a similar procedure for another heavyweight championship bout that he previously had announced for September. He has cleared the period from Sept. 8 to 21 with the Yankee offices because he has decided both fights will be held in the Stadium.

Under the plan, Conn is obligated to give a chance to Louis to regain the crown within ninety days in the event the Pittsburgher wins June 19. If Louis again beats Conn, the Detroit Negro will be signed to meet the best available contender for the September date.

Jacobs talked over the telephone to Hot Springs, Ark., with Conn yesterday. The challenger expressed satisfaction with the latest development in connection with his oft-expressed desire for a return meeting with Louis.

The champion is on tour with a dance band in the South now. This tour will end in time for Louis to visit this city Jan. 29.

Joe will be in light training under the direction of Mannie Seamon, trainer for Benny Leonard in the old days, from Feb. 1. Louis will enter hard training at Pompton Lakes, N. J., April 1. Conn, engaging in light training now after his years in the Army, will train at Greenwood Lake, N. J. Seamon has been associated with Louis since the death of Jack Blackburn.

Simon Bout Last for Louis

The bout will be the first for Louis since he toppled huge Abe Simon in the six rounds at Madison Square Garden, March 27, 1942, for Army Emergency Relief. This bout followed a Jan. 9 one-round knockout of Buddy Baer in the Garden that year for the Navy Relief Society. Louis recently received an Army discharge.

Conn has not boxed since he won a twelve-round decision over Tony Zale here Feb. 13, 1942. He, too, was in the Army, only recently receiving his discharge.

Besides the two heavyweight matches, Jacobs plans four other ring title bouts for his outdoor calendar, all four to be held in the Polo Grounds. Championships are proposed in the lightweight, welterweight, middleweight and light-heavyweight divisions.

Under Jacobs' rental arrangement for the two ball parks, the income from boxing is divided equally between New York's two major league clubs. The Madison Square Garden Corporation, which has a contract on Jacobs' activities as a boxing promoter, shares in the promoter's profits.

Joe Louis Goes To Jail—Visits Former Manager

Jackson, Mich., Feb. 8 (U.P.)—Heavyweight champion Joe Louis visited today with his old friend and former manager, John Roxborough, who will not be released from prison in time to be in his corner for the title fight with Billy Conn in New York, June 19.

Louis visited Roxborough in Southern Michigan Prison at Jackson. Friends of Louis and Roxborough recently petitioned the State Parole Board for the former manager's release.

The Parole Board voted to take no action o nthe petition. Roxborough is serving a 2½ to 5-year sentence for conspiracy as a result of the policy racket investigation at Detroit. He entered prison in November, 1944, and will not be eligible for parole until October 4, 1946.

He gave me some good advice," the Brown Bomber said. "I'll be back for more visits with Roxy before the fight as I'm going to train at West Baden, Ind., and that's not too far from here."

LOUIS IS WARY OF CONN

Recognizes Rival's Ability as a Boxer—Wants Slugging Bout

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Jan. 25 (AP)—Billy Conn is three times a better boxer than Joe Louis, says the man who should know—Joe Louis.

The Brown Bomber, visiting friend here today, indicated in reply to questions about his June 19 title bout with Conn in the Yankee Stadium that he doesn't fear Conn the slugger but he is apprehensive of Conn the boxer.

"I hope to catch him early," said the world champion heavyweight boxer. "I figure that if I can't knock him out early I should catch him with a hard punch and rock him. That would make him quit boxing and make him slug it out with men. You know, Conn is a three times better boxer than I am."

On tour with a dance orchestra, Louis, who appears in the band's show only for a short interview each night, said the trip would end Feb. 4, after which he planned to rest before beginning a two-month training grind on March 1 at a training camp in Indiana.

The champion weighs 220 pounds, he said, but he anticipated no trouble in scaling down to his regular fighting figure of 205 for his defense against Conn.

Louis Admits He Can't Outbox Billy Conn

MACON, GA., Jan. 11—(AP)—World's Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, in an interview here, expressed belief today that a victory for him over Challenger Billy Conn in their return bout can come only "by a knockout."

"I will have to knock Conn out as quickly as possible," Louis told Sports Editor Sam Glassman, of the Telegraph, "for I can't outbox him."

Louis, 31, said he would start training for the Summer fight at French Lick Springs, Ind., on March 1.

The champion, who won the title in June, 1937, from Jim Braddock, said he is up to 220 pounds, but expected to drop down to about 205.

He is now on tour with an all-Negro band, making personal appearances.

LOUIS JOINS CHARLESTON VET ORGANIZATION

CHARLESTON, S.C. (ANP)—Joe Louis joined the Veterans Civic Organization while appearing here a few days ago, after learning of the club's program, and later addressed the group, Albert N. Brooks, president, declared.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

RECORD $3,000,000

$1,500,000 Banked For Conn-Louis Fight

Atlanta Constitution

By BOB CONSIDINE

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Paraphrasing Tex Rickard's "Never seed nothin' like it," Mike waxed enthusiastic today over the finances of the forthcoming heavyweight championship fight.

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The Louis-Conn fight differs in other ways from the classic struggle in Chicago which stands as the high-water mark of all boxing promotions. Atlanta, Ga.

"The politicians grabbed the best seats for that one in Chicago," Mike remembered. "But this one's different. I know exactly who is going to sit where, in the first five or six rows of the ringside."

Jacobs reiterated his intention of keeping the crowd for the Louis-Conn fight down to a wieldy 60,000, and promises a clear view of the fight for all customers, even those in the worst—or $10—seats.

The $1,500,000 already in the till is more than three times as much as Louis and Conn drew in their last fight on June 18, 1941. It failed to draw a half million dollars, though the crowd was 60,071.

Curiously, the richest fight of them all, the Dempsey-Tunney clout in Chicago, drew 16,000 fewer persons than the first Dempsey-Tunney fight in Philadelphia, which holds the record of 120,757. The gate receipts of that first Dempsey-Tunney fight were $1,835,733.

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Some large corporations have bought as much as $50,000 worth of tickets. The 14,000 ringside seats, at $100 a throw, will be the first to sell out—a commentary on the times. Atlanta Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

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But it doesn't seem to be worrying him. His main worry, intimates say, is that he won't knock out Conn in a round or two—and be forced to dance through the whole distance on his fading legs.

FROM THE LOUIS AND CONN CAMPS

New York, N.Y. Daily Worker

POMPTON LAKES, N. J. — Down to 213 pounds, only five more than what he intends to weigh 13 days hence when he fights Billy Conn, heavyweight champ Joe Louis took the day off yesterday, and will resume his workouts this afternoon in the outdoor ring here.

Joe Louis isn't at all concerned about the dire reports most scribes are penning about his so-called unimpressive workouts. The champ, never a "gym performer" has long been known as a methodically scientific conditioner who follows a set strategy regardless of how it may look to training camp observers. Up to now Joe hasn't been throwing any big punches, being more content to sharpen up his defense against the left jabs and hooks his sparmates have been instructed to toss at him ala Billy Conn-style.

The great Negro champion is highly satisfied with his condition —and he thinks "condition is going to win this fight." 6-6-46

With the six rounds he worked Tuesday, Louis completed 92 rounds of sparring. He has eight more planned workouts. Those drills will be held today, Saturday and Sunday of this week; Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday of next week, and then the final workout the Monday preceding his Wednesday defense of the crown.

Whether or not Joe will open up at all during those remaining sessions remains to be seen. But one thing is certain. Louis will be razor sharp the night of the Big Fight.

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It seems that Conn's biggest problem is in holding his fighting sharpness until the night of the 19th. The Pittsburgh Kid seems ready to step into the ring against Louis right now—and this isn't as healthy a sign as one might think. Conn rounded into fine shape much sooner than many people anticipated, and they're all hoping that he doesn't go stale between now and the 13 days remaining before both men tee off in Yankee Stadium. Thurs.

But Conn's handlers are being exceptionally careful these final few days. 6-6-46

With Joe Louis:

Specialists Do Stuff At Champ's Camp

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

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Joe finds the days pass quickly with the intense routine of road-work and boxing, and the evenings are pleasant to the champion. Before he knows it, bedtime is at hand and the heavyweight championship fight at the Yankee Stadium on June 19th is a day closer.

The top man of the camp is Marshall Miles, the Brown Bomber's manager. Miles, a lightweight physically, attends to a thousand and one details. Friday

In the kitchen, Bill Bottoms is king. His word is law and his menus are never questioned. It's Bottom's policy never to worry about special diets. "Just eat and be strong," he cautions Joe and the sparring partners. Bill has been the custodian of the vitamins since Joe's first bout with Carnera.

And when the sparring sessions get under way, the responsibility of leadership shifts to Mannie Seamon, the trainer. He issues orders to sparring partners and dictates the number of rounds that the champion will box that day.

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CONN IMPRESSIVE IN LONG WORKOUT

Times

Appears Fast, Strong in 8-Round Drill—Confident of Victory—Louis Takes Day Off

New York, New York

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

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Fast on his feet, moving surefootedly on legs that carried him untiringly although he was on his toes most of the time, stabbing or volleying blows in an exhibition of offensive and defensive boxing that reflected good fighting condition, the smiling Irishman from Pittsburgh worked the better part of an hour, the equivalent of fifteen rounds in over-all activity, and left the unmistakable impression that he is ready to enter the ring now, fit for the battle of his life.

Eight rounds Conn sparred, bringing to 217 the total number of rounds he has sparred for the approaching Louis scrap. He worked six minutes at shadow-boxing, five minutes punching the light bak, two rounds at the chest pulleys and closed the drill with a

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Without hesitation Conn stepped on the scales following the workout and the beam registered 182 pounds for all to see. He was perspiring freely, puffing no more than could be considered normal after such a drill, and his mental attitude was one of complete satisfaction with his condition and supreme confidence in the outcome of the June 19 battle.

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Poreda and Mickey Bellusceo. Jackie, pudgy and beefy but a willing mixer for all that, lashed out for the jaw repeatedly in the first two rounds and, although he missed many times, nevertheless connected with several rights, and bothered the challenger in occasional brushes along the ropes.

Against Smith and Bellusceo, Conn concentrated on a combination left hook to the body and to the jaw, a blow he drove home repeatedly almost with the one motion. He battered Bellusceo solidly about the mid-riff after being hurt by a right to the body and against the counter-fighting style of Smith, the challenger snapped repeated left jabs to the face, along with left hooks and right crosses to the jaw.

Conn said he felt strong through the sparring workout and added he expected to get in a twelve-round session at trading blows, perhaps over the week-end, when reinforcements are expected among his sparmates.

Louis took the day easily at his Pompton Lakes camp. The champion announced he will utilize George Nicholson as one of his seconds on June 19.

LOUIS IS OFF FORM IN SIX-ROUND DRILL

Times, New York N.Y.

Lacks Punching Coordination as Mates Land Many Blows —Conn Works 8 Stanzas

5-29-46

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This inaccuracy—this lack of coordination between fist, muscle and eye—could not be blamed upon any unusual elusiveness of his sparmates, because he missed or grazed just about as often against slow Perk Daniels of Chicago in two rounds as against Al Hoosman of Los Angeles, a fast-stepping, swaying, difficult target. Hoosman boxed two rounds, but the other two sparmates—Jimmy Bell of Washington and George Fitch of New Haven, Conn.—went only one each.

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FROM THE FITE CAMPS

Daily Worker

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"Joe takes great care of himself. Every fight is just another fight for him and he trains as hard for one as he does for the other. There is nothing careless about his work." *5-30-46*

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Johnny Ray, who grew Billy from an ordinary boxing tyro into a challenger for the highest honor in fistdom and to whom Billy can attribute everything he knows about the game, has been coaching the young Pittsburgher in the use of these two punches.

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The liver blow is as old as boxing itself but very few boxers over the span of years have used it effectively. *Thurs.*

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Atlanta Ga.
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Just as some helpless nations have been "liberated" or conquered by Communism, "we too shall be conquered" unless "we act wisely and promptly to check its poison propaganda thru the antitoxin of truth and patriotism," declares the Catholic prelate in his first article since becoming a Cardinal. *Friday*

"As Joe Louis said, 'there are lots of things wrong with America but nothing that Naziism can cure.' And I say, 'there is nothing wrong that Communism can cure'"

NO MIDDLE COURSE

There is no middle course between Democracy and Communism because "Communism's concept is seeded in materialism and rooted in tyranny," states the Cardinal who did some 140,000 miles of global traveling during war years. "Wherever Communism appears, slavery reappears.

"Communists have inflicted their sinister influences and domination on every small, helpless nation which they 'liberated' or conquered, and unless we awaken and unite our common interests and common efforts to save our common country, we too shall be conquered.

"Today, Communists, suppressing and distorting truth, are intimidating men and inflicting despotism on America, trying to convert Americans to Communism. In government, in industry, in labor unions, in our political and educational systems, even in the armed service of our country, Communists and Communist sympathizers hold responsible positions, while members of their party use the press, the radio, and the films to influence and divide us against ourselves. *5-31-46*

"They try to seduce us into believing that Americans can be Communists, but a true American can be neither a Communist nor a Communist condoner, and we must realize that the first loyalty of every American is vigilantly to weed out and counteract Communism and convert American Communists to Americanism."

Conn Sharpens Defense by Boxing Six Rounds With Three Sparmates

Challenger's Left Hook Hits Target in Few Offensive Thrusts at Camp—Lesnevich Picks Pittsburgher to Beat Louis

New York Times

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

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He was trim, lithe and sharp, lean of [illegible] and flat-bellied.

Throughout his more arduous activities, he breathed calmly and easily, never once so much as gasping even under the force of a sparmate's punch to the body.

With all his appearance of being in great shape, though, the Pittsburgh heavyweight did not give too impressive a performance in his ring workout. He boxed two rounds with Mickey McAvoy, two with Irish Jimmy Smith and two more with Frank Poreda. Except for his joust with McAvoy, who was in there merely to warm the challenger up, Conn did not display much in the way of an attack.

Indeed, the forcing was done by Smith and Poreda. Both moved toward their "boss" constantly, throwing punches in a steady stream, and landing with a good many of them. *6-8-46*

While this aggressiveness on the part of the hired help made Billy look bad in the eyes of the couple of hundred fans who witnessed the workout, they caused no concern to the fighter's board of strategy. Manager Johnny Ray pointed out that the sparring partners were following instructions in carrying the action to Conn. It was all in accordance with plans for the day.

Ray went on to explain that of the many punches thrown at Conn, only a few landed. Of these few, not one could have been considered a damaging blow had it been landed in real competition.

Conn felt inclined to disregard instructions once or twice, and when he did he put into play a left hook that found its mark precisely on the target. In the main, though, it was on defense that Billy concentrated. Though he probably failed to satisfy the thrill-hunters, he pleased the critical-minded. *Sat. 6-8-46*

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LOUIS IS OFF FORM IN SIX-ROUND DRILL

Times, New York, N.Y.

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Poreda and Mickey Bellusceo. Jackie, pudgy and beefy but a willing mixer for all that, lashed out for the jaw repeatedly in the first two rounds and, although he missed many times, nevertheless connected with several rights, and bothered the challenger in occasional brushes along the ropes.

Against Smith and Bellusceo, Conn concentrated on a combination left hook to the body and to the jaw, a blow he drove home repeatedly almost with the one motion. He battered Bellusceo solidly about the mid-riff after being hurt by a right to the body and against the counter-fighting style of Smith, the challenger snapped repeated left jabs to the face, along with left hooks and right crosses to the jaw.

Conn said he felt strong through the sparring workout and added he expected to get in a twelve-round session at trading blows, perhaps over the week-end, when reinforcements are expected among his sparmates.

Louis took the day easily at his Pompton Lakes camp. The champion announced he will utilize George Nicholson as one of his seconds on June 19.

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In this Corner

Daily Worker New York N.Y. 1-12-46

Many Fighters Have Proven Gallico Wrong

Bill Mardo

Discussing Paul Gallico's "mean-man" theory yesterday, I ended on the note that young Rocky Graziano isn't at all the wild little savage outside the ring that he'd have to be in order to prove Gallico's contention correct.

I purposely opened my argument with the example of Graziano because, Rocky, to my mind, comes closest to emulating today Dempsey's roaring take-two land-one slugging technique. And it was around Dempsey that Gallico built up his entire case of successful ringmen invariably being cold and vicious in their personal life.

JOE LOUIS

But it would be just as wrong for me to begin and end with Graziano as it was for the former **Daily News** sports editor to develop his thesis almost solely around Jack Dempsey. There are many, many other scrappers who've climbed the heights that I can point to for further proof of logical disagreement with Gallico.

Let's start with Joe Louis. In his book "Farewell to Sports," Gallico insisted "there never was a meaner man than Dempsey with his sparring partners unless it could be the cold and emotionless Joseph Louis Barrow." The realm of sparring comes of course, under the heading of inside-the-ring activities. Even if we disagree with Gallico on that issue, it would still have nothing to do with the debate at hand unless Gallico was convinced that Louis was "cold and emotionless" outside the ring, too. Gallico, for a long while, believed just that. In an article written for "Reader's Digest" some ten years ago, Gallico described Louis as a veritable brute who took pleasure in hurting people, who was not capable of doing anything constructive. Gallico summed up that piece with his belief that Joe Louis is "a mean, mean man."

History has proven Gallico wrong, and he publicly retracted his original estimate of Louis just before the great Negro champ went into the Army. It would be facetious of me to even start citing the warm, wonderful keenly intelligent personality of King Joe.

Ray Robinson is another fighter who's sheer artistic murder in the ring. With the leather mittens off, the marvelous uncrowned welterweight king is a pleasant, friendly chap who has consciously refrained from getting involved with any of the avaricious blood-suckers who do infest the boxing world. Clean-cut Robbie even prefers to handle his own managerial details rather than let someone have a "piece" of him.

One of the sweetest sights I've ever seen occurred at the Garden six months ago, the night Graziano stiffened Red Cochrane for the second time. Going back to Rocky's dressing room, I happened to spot Robinson walking through the 50 St. tunnelway with an eight-year-old white kid whom Ray had evidently taken to the fights as his guest. Ray was holding the youngster's hand, and as they reached the exit leading to the street, I heard the boyish voice inquire: "Where we goin' now, Ray?"

Cold, mean, ruthless, amoral?

Oh there are so many others to prove Gallico wrong. The baby-faced Jimmy McLarnin who would sign for match only when he had to—an ordinary, even-tempered guy who much preferred to busy himself on the golf links than anything else. Barney Ross, a truly talented performer who emerged from the tough Chicago slums with nary a scar in his soul; a progressive person with deep pride in his race and shrapnel in his legs for an heroic night he spent on Guadalcanal that was heard around the world.

Hammering Henry Armstrong, the sensitive poet and fighter for democracy. Happy-go-lucky Tami Mauriello. Mickey Walker, a fearless warrior who "loves that guy Goya." Jimmy Bivins, the third-ranking heavyweight in the land, who'd rather paint than fight. Chalky Wright, whose soft speech and gentleness outside the hempen square must come as a surprise to the thousands who've seen him coolly stalk a foe and then powder him into dreamland.

I could continue here for a day and a night . . . but that devil space is waving his finger at me. Don't get me wrong, sure there have been plenty of tougaies in the cruel and sordid fight racket. But Gallico wasn't on the ball when he put his "ruthless and amoral" tag onto all successful scrappers.

P.M. New York, N.Y. Monday 63c

The Champ Joe Louis thinks things over at West Baden Springs, Ind., where he's training for the fight with Billy Conn June 19.

Not Thinking About Conn:

Louis Concerned Over His Own Condition

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

By JAMES H. BOYKINS

RALEIGH, N. C.—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, bulging about the waistline and in the worst shape of his career, is frankly worried about getting into top condition for his bout with Billy Conn in Yankee Stadium on June 19.

When he stopped in Raleigh Thursday with a touring band, he frankly admitted that his long layoff from the ring and Army life have softened him up and added:

"I am really afraid I am going to have a hard time getting in shape for that fight."

Tipping the scales at 220, Louis' weight is at all-time high for him, and it is a flabby weight that must come off before the title bout.

1-26-46

TRAINING SCHEDULE

Joe realizes all of this. He will begin training at French Lake, Ind., on March 1, and will move to his old training haunts at Pompton Lakes, N. J., on May 1 when he will really get down to work and take on his first sparring partners.

Manager John Roxborough has arranged for 154 rounds of sparring with all of the mates weighing between 175 and 190.

The world heavyweight champion plans to enter the ring June 19, carrying 205, second highest of his career. In his last fight with Abe Simon in March, 1942, Louis weighed 206, and he admits that he was not in top trim for that tilt.

When he was informed that Challenger Billy Conn intends to fight this time at 188, the bleak-buster said:

"That's fine, I hope he gets to 188."

Conn weighed only 175 in the other meeting with Louis who weighed 199 3-4.

WAS OVER-TRAINED

Champion Louis said he was overtrained for the first meeting with Conn in the summer of 1941, and that he does not intend to carry it that far this time.

He said he is sure that Conn, strictly a boxer with little punch, will let him "carry the fight" and not make another attempt to punch with him, which ordeal proved disastrous for the challenger in the other meeting.

"He will be backpedaling again," said the champion. "I know he won't fight any different . . . I don't believe the extra weight will give him any more punch, and he coudn't hit then. He didn't hurt at all the first time."

Prospects of a $3,000,000 gate for the Conn fight brought a broad smile across the face of the champion, because Louis is to receive 40 per cent of the net receipts which should total about $3,000,000, but he thinks $3,000,000 is too big an estimate. Said Louis:

"A $2,000,000 gate would suit me just fine."

Champion Louis was doing absolutely no smiling about the $68,000 income he owes Uncle Sam, and said he plans to take his troubles to the income tax people when he completes the present tour.

He has three roads to follow after the fight with Conn, depending on the outcome. If he wins he will not have to fight again this year, and frankly doesn't intend to fight again. If he loses by a narrow margin, he plans to call for another match, to which he is entitled, but if the Pittsburgh boy whips him decisely, Louis will retire from the ring.

HIS BEST FIGHT

Champion Louis said that Conn gave him the best fight of his career, Max Baer could take the hardest punch and an unknown Al DeLaney gave him the hardest punch he has ever taken in about the tenth or 15th fight of Louis' career.

Louis said he saw a number of promising lightweights, middleweights and welterweights in the service, but only one heavyweight who showed any promise of developing into a possible champion. That potential champion would be John Ebaugh of California.

The champion put on about 300 fights while in the Army, but never did any serious training or made much of an attempt to keep in good fighting shape.

Little Man In Jim Crow Ferry Tongue-Lashes Champ Joe Louis

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN

PORTSMOUTH—The same racial bias, which caused the United Nations Conference to refuse to consider any parts of prejudiced Dixie as a site for its world headquarters, reared its burly head in typical example Friday—this time the victim was that international ambassador of goodwill and amity, Joe Louis, heavyweight champion of the world.

This latest ... incident, typical of the prejudiced insults that are heaped daily upon colored citizens by little people of the South, came about simply because the champion wanted to buy a magazine.

It happened to be the champion's bad luck to have to pass through Portsmouth last Friday, enroute to Norfolk where he was to appear in a special attraction at the USO Arena.

FOR WHITE ONLY

He entered the jim-crow ferry terminal for the short boat ride to Norfolk. Depositing his nickel in the coin slot, he noticed the magazine rack at the confectionery stand in the terminal and walked over to buy one of the publications. Louis, not familiar with the jim-crow system of the municipally-owned ferry system, was not aware that the magazine display was for white people only.

But the champ quickly learned that Virginia had a law which says that colored Americans cannot have the same accommodations and services as white people. Realizing his mistake, Louis turned and headed towards the room in the rear which is reserved for colored passengers.

LITTLE MAN

While returning to enter the corridor leading to the colored section, the champion was affronted by one of the hired hands at the terminal, who proceeded to blast the innocent visitor with a barrage of taunting and unseemly language.

It was only natural for amazed observers to presume that the noisy little man, who is paid as a servant of the public, was not aware that he was insulting the heavyweight champion of the world, who currently happens to be colored.

CHAMP SILENT

Joe Louis, who has met little people before, took the verbal attack in a gentlemanly manner. His only reply was an eloquent silence. As the over-bearing little man, yelping in a typical southern drawl, continued his abusive language, the champion quietly proceeded into the back room "where n . . . . . s belong."

In the colored waiting room there is no display of magazines or newspapers. There is a window through which passengers may buy assorted confections when the clerks are not busy waiting on white people out front.

A GENTLEMAN

Joe Louis made an innocent attempt to buy a magazine in Portsmouth and found himself involved in an incident which would have easily developed into serious trouble for a celebrity of less composure.

The champion is also a gentleman. He couldn't buy a magazine in Portsmouth. He didn't say so, but there was every indication that Joe Louis will never again try to spend any of his money in this historic city, which the Chamber of Commerce advertises to be "The Garden Spot of Tidewater."

The Champ Autograhs Biography

Joe Louis is shown above on a recent visit to Pittsburgh in the midst of four attractive admirers anxiously awaiting the famous pugilist's signaturei n their copies of JOE LOUIS: AMERICAN. The book, authored by Margery Miller and published by Current Books, Inc., New York lCty, is fast becoming a best seller. (ANP Photo.)

NBA Ring Solon Raps Tie-Up Between Joe and Mike Jacobs

WASHINGTON

Col. Harvey L. (Heinie) Miller, long time secretary of the National Boxing Association, went on record here last week as being opposed to a so-called "arrangement" whereby Joe Louis is being managed by Promoter Mike Jacobs.

Miller is quoted as having accused the 20th Century Sporting Club major-domo of being the manager of the heavyweight champion.

This dual role of promoter-manager is "a decided detriment" to boxing generally, Miller added. Louis will defend his world heavyweight title in a bout with Conn in Yankee Stadium, New York City, next June.

"No boxer should be managed by 'the house;' that's wrong," Miller said.

The N.B.A. official later declared in an interview that it is publicly known Louis is indebted to Jacobs for thousands of dollars loaned to the heavyweight champion while he was in the Army.

Miller commented it was learned years ago that boxing cannot win and hold the public's support if a promoter also manages boxers who fight for him.

"I see that Louis has just named some fellow I never heard of as his manager for the Conn fight," Miller said, but that doesn't mean a thing."

Conn didn't get careless in first bout, says Joe's trainer

For those wiseacres who like to squint knowingly and tell you that Joe was playing dead in the 12th and 13th rounds of the first Conn fight and that cagey old Jack Blackburn was scraping his barrel of tricks by having Joe play possum, Manny Seaman, Blackburn's assistant at the time, ain't got much use, he says.

Manny, who will be handling Joe's affairs June 19 in the retake, ought to know, oughtn't he? Well, let's listen to his say-so on the deal, anyhow:

"Most people think Conn got careless in the 13th, after having nailed the champ in the 12th. Well, that just isn't so. Bill had fought a game, unexpectedly great fight, and he didn't get careless. He was standing slugging it out with Joe because that was all he could do. He had been hit around the middle so often and so hard that his legs just wouldn't move him. He couldn't dance anymore and he got tagged. That's all."

In his day, Seaman's handled many a one-time champion, though not always while they were titleholders. He handled Benny Leonard, Gene Tunney, Primo Carnero, Johnny Ertle, Johnny Wilson, Tod Morgan, and Ted "Kid" Lewis among others.

Manny said that one of the wisest things Blackburn ever told him was that "no trainer makes a fighter. He only gives him a polish". Training a fighter, according to Manny, is just like caring for a child, you gotta watch that they don't over do or under do the right things. If you see him doing something wrong tell him, and if he's smart he'll change. If he ain't, all God's trainers can't help him.

We're going to keep Louis at French Lick springs, Ind., until April 28, said Seaman, and then we'll start boxing at Pompton Lakes, N. J., May 1st. The camp strategists figure Joe'll need a good 125-150 rounds under his belt before June. Seaman has posted a general invitation to all and sundry 6-footers between 175-210 lbs., with a good left hand. They'll be handsomely paid, he said. And "we don't care if they knock Joe around at first. We need hard competition and it's a good chance for someone to make a name for himself."

Joe is a little overweight now, admits Seaman, but he says that Joe will be in fine fettle that June night. What's more, he says, the little old three years' difference in age don't mean a thing. Most all heavyweights were as good as ever when they turned thirty . . . Anyway Joe's plenty good enough, with some to spare, for Conn, any day in the week and twice on Sunday.

Louis, 32, May Survive Age Jinx

Records Show 'Strife Ends At 30' For Heavy Kings

New York, May 12 (AP)—Nine years ago come next month Joe Louis knocked out the 32-year-old Jimmy Braddock to win the heavyweight title.

Tomorrow Louis will be 32 years old himself, a fact which may or may not be significant when he defends his crown on June 19 in a return bout with Challenger Billy Conn. The Pittsburgh Fancy Dan will be 29 on October 8.

It probably means nothing to poker-faced Joe, now training at Pompton Lakes, N. J., but the records show that virtually all past heavyweight champions lost their title after they crossed the 30-year mark.

The great John L. Sullivan was 34 when he dropped the crown to James J. Corbett; Corbett was 31 when he was beaten by Bob Fitzsimmons; Fitzsimmons was 37 when he succumbed to hardy James J. Jeffries.

TWO EXCEPTIONS

Jack Johnson was 37 the year he lost to Jess Willard; Willard was 36 when he was overpowered by Jack Dempsey and Dempsey was 31 when Gene Tunney outpointed him in Philadelphia 20 years ago.

There were two notable exceptions to this rule and Joe may be the third. Fitzsimmons was 35 when he took the title from Corbett and Willard was 32 when he knocked out Johnson.

No special birthday ceremonies have been announced and it is probable that Joe will observe the day quietly in his north Jersey mountain retreat. He may get a day off from the tough conditioning grind.

Modest Joe has come a long way since he was born Joseph Louis Barrow in a ramshackle cabin near Lafayette, Ala., on May 13, 1914. His family moved to Detroit when he was 6 and it was in the Motor City that he started his spectacular rise to fistic fame and fortune.

AMATEUR CAREER

After a brief amateur career, Joe turned pro in 1934. Since then he has fought 57 times, winning 48 by knockouts, seven by decisions and one on a disqualification. His lone defeat, a 12-round knockout at the hands of Max Schmeling, he later avenged with a one-round kayo.

Altogether he has fought before 1,111,680 persons in his 57 bouts and earned $2,264,001, a strange contrast to his poverty-stricken childhood.

Louis says he'll keep on fighting as long as he keeps winning

FRENCH LICK, Ind. — World's heavyweight champion Joe Louis took a breather from preliminary training here the other day to straighten the records on the matter of his retiring from the ring following his June 19 title bout with Billy Conn.

To scotch the rumor once and for all, the champion said he would keep on fighting as long as he kept on winning; and then went on with his training. He breaks camp here next Monday to move into Pompton Lakes, N. J., for his final phase of training.

Bomber Joe Works On Left, Takes Battering

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., May 18—(AP)—Joe Louis, who will defend his heavyweight boxing crown against Billy Conn on June 19, took a battering today, primarily because Trainer Manny Seamon instructed the titleholder to concentrate on his left.

Louis boxed one round each with Al Hoosman and Perk Daniels and did two each with Jimmy Bell and George Fitch. The final frame with Bell became heated when both forgot instructions and slugged it out.

Joe Confident, But Is Wary Of Billy Conn

Times Despatch, Richmond, Va. Tues 4-30-46

INDIANAPOLIS, April 29—(AP)—Joe Louis ended his Hoosier holiday today and headed east to begin hard training for his heavyweight title bout with Billy Conn.

The world's champion, who has been at West Baden in the southern Indiana hill country since March 7, motored to Indianapolis this morning, played nine holes of golf on a local course and then boarded a train for New York this afternoon.

He tsill wore the heavy crop of whiskers he had accumulated during his stay at West Baden spa and said he would not whack them off until he arrives at Pompton Lakes, N. J., where he will establish his new camp not later than next Saturday.

He said that as soon as he reached Pompton Lakes he will settle down to the real business of getting ready to defend his title against Conn in Yankee Stadium, New York, on June 10.

The champion spent his time at West Baden in long hikes and daily rounds of golf. He leaves Indiana weighing 216 pounds, about six pounds less than when he arrived. *Tues 4-30-46*

Louis believes he'll dispose of Conn but he isn't disposed to take the challenger lightly.

"I'll have to be at my best to beat Conn," he said. "He's game and clever as they come."

Louis was accompanied here by Bob Motgomery, recognized as the lightweight champion in New York. Montgomery had been with Louis for several days at West Baden.

LOUIS' NOSE IS HIT IN FIRST WORKOUT

New York Times, New York, N.Y.

Fails to Hamper Heavyweight Champion—Spars 4 Rounds at Pompton Lakes Camp

Sun. 5-5-46

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., May 4 (UP)—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis suffered a bloody nose in the first round today as he began preparations for defending his title against Billy Conn at Yankee Stadium June 19.

Al Hoosman, elongated Negro heavyweight from Los Angeles, brought blood to the champion's nose with a series of long left jabs. It was the first time that Louis had ever bled in training.

However, the champion was sharper in his four-round workout with three sparring partners than had been expected. He was accurate in his punching. He was hitting hard enough to floor his second opponent, Jimmy Bell of Washington, D. C., for a no-count when a hard straight right connected with Bell's chin. *Sun 5-5-46*

Defensively, at times, Joe seemed a bit slow in blocking punches to his head. He looked a little heavy about the hips but lean at the waistline. Trainer Mannie Seamon said Louis scaled about 217 pounds. He expects to fight at about 208.

In his first boxing preparation for a professional fight since 1942, Joe worked with three of the best sparring partners he has ever had. Hoosman and Bell boxed one round each, and George Fitch of New

A large aggregation of boxing writers and photographers were in the crowd of 200 who watched Joe in the indoor gymnasium. The weather was too cold to work outside.

Joe Louis Invests In Jazz Band

CHICAGO, Ill.—Joe Louis, the heavyweight champ, is not only preparing the knockout formula for his coming bout with Billy Conn in June, but is infecting a terrific punch into the music business through Eddie Mallory's crack band. The champ is co-owner of the outfit.

Mallory, for a long time a familiar figure in the realm of sharps and flats, encountered numerous obstacles while getting his band started including an estimated loss of $7,000 in equipment when Rhumboogie Cafe burned on New Year's Day. Despite these handicaps the band has been refitted and is off to a good start.

WANTS VOCALIST

The swingy aggregation has boosted its stock imemnsely while playing one-nighters throughout Chicagoland in the past month and scored hits at Pershing Ball Room where it tossed box office figures to a new high.

Bob Anderson, a Navy vet, is doing the vocal chores and Mallory announced his interest in a new feminine chirper to alternate with Anderson.

Slated for a re-opening at Rhumboogie late in March, the crew will play several dates in Ohio, including the famed Cotton Club in Cincinnati after which they go to Rockford, Ill., for a stomp on the route back to Chicago.

Joe Easy To Train --Trainer

4-27-46 Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

WEST BADEN SPRINGS, Ind—(ANP) — World heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis will break camp here on April 29, for his final physical conditioning at Pompton Lakes preparatory to meeting Billy Conn at Yankee Stadium in New York City on June 19.

Joe has not placed a boxing glove on since he arrived here on March 8, and has practically outlined his own conditioning program. He had to lose approximately twenty of his 221 pounds in order to bring him near the peak of his fighting form. He began by sleeping. He rested for three days, then went on a protein diet of two meals a day, plenty of broiled meat, milk and ice cream. He added mileage to his hikes little by little up a nearby mountain until now he is doing six to eight miles of climbing.

His conditioning program also includes nine holes of golf in the afternoons, a little softball and an occasional game of horseshoe pitching. He plans to start horseback riding soon. Joe has not placed a boxing glove on since he arrived here on March 8. His camp, in the shadow of Tom Taggart's famous French Lick Springs Hotel, has a vacation atmosphere.

He reads newspapers, magazines and good books, but shows special interest in Jackie Robinson and John Wright, signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers for their Montreal team. He is enthused about the chance they got, but wonders why did "baseball people have to wait so long to give it to them."

TRAINS SERIOUSLY *Sat*

"I have handled champions, from Bennie Leonard to Ted Kid Lewis, Johnny Estle and Ted Morgan," said Mannie Seamon, his trainer. "Joe is by far the easiest to train. His understanding of himself is remarkable—he never loses his temper, never becomes annoyed when people drop in. He is the most considerate boxer I have ever been associated with, not only in the ring, but in private life."

Seamon was assistant to Jack Blackburn for five years before Joe was inducted into the Army. He and other members of the camp praise Joe's even temper and unchanging attitude.

LOUIS STINGS MATES IN SPARRING SESSION

Mon 5-13-46 New York Times New York

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., May 12 (AP)—Joe Louis gave his spar mates a good going over today as he went through his training paces before a large crowd. The heavyweight champion, who will defend his title against Billy Conn in the Yankee Stadium on June 19, went a round each with four men.

Louis first opposed Lanky Al Hoosman and had the Los Angeles Negro hanging on at the end of three minutes. Hoosman had trouble with his headgear midway in the session and took it off. The champion then doffed his helmet and the two slugged away without benefit of protective gear.

Louis stung Jimmy Bell several times and then gave Perk Daniels a pasting. He took things fairly easy with George Fitch in his last round.

Robinson Sees Workout

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., May 12 (AP)—Billy Conn went through six sizzling rounds of sparring at his training camp here today and ringwise observers said the challenger for the heavyweight title appeared to be in the pink of condition.

A big crowd, including the welterweight title contender, Ray Robinson, saw the Pittsburgh boxer go through his paces. Robinson, who watched Louis work out at Pompton Lakes yesterday, said he thought Conn looked much farther advanced than the champion.

Robinson may have been influenced by the fact that this was the best showing Conn has made since starting heavy work here.

Conn went a round with Mickey McAvoy, two each with Mickey Belluscio and Jim Neville, and one with Wade Chauncey. Billy tipped the scales at 188 pounds after the drill.

LOUIS AND CONN FIT FOR TITLE CONTEST

New York Times, N.Y.

Heavyweights Found in Good Condition for June 19 Bout —$5,000 Forfeits Posted

Sat 5-4-46

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

The $3,000,000 fight is now signed and sealed. Its date of delivery, of course, is June 19, at the Yankee Stadium.

Joe Louis and Billy Conn, who will meet in the battle of the C-note under the promotion of Mike Jacobs, appeared before the New York State Athletic Commission yesterday to submit to physical examinations and to post appearance forfeits for their fight.

Surrounded by hordes of cameramen, reporters, commissioners, deputy commissioners, policemen and plain sight-seers, the rival gladiators went through the prescribed routine quite calmly, and passed the demtnds made of them creditably.

Eddie Eagan, chairman of the board, supervised the activities, and personally applied the weights to the scales to determine the athletes' poundage. Louis hit 224½ and Conn 195½. In their previous meetings, five years ago, the Brown Bomber weighed 199½ as against 174 for Conn. For the forthcoming joust Louis plans to weigh 208 and Conn 182.

Reactions a Bit Slower

The commission physician, Dr. Willia mWalker, put the gladiators through a check-up and found them in good shape. He did state, though, that their reactions were a little slower than when he examined them for their 1941 clash, but explained that the boys would sharpen up during their training campaigns. In all other departments, Joe and Billy were as good or even better than could be expected. *Sat 5-4-46*

Through the proceedings the pair, who always have been good friends, exchanged a running fire of banter, during which neither self-consciously refrained from mentioning the battle. Louis feigned annoyance, though, when Conn ventured an inclination to meet him on the golf course.

The fighters' representatives signed the formal contracts with the commission, and also deposited appearance forfeits of $5,000 each with the board. The terms of the agreement award Louis 40 per cent and Conn 20 per cent of the gate, the movie and the television rights. Each will also receive a share of the radio proceeds.

Billy Sees Yankees Win

When it was over Louis returned to his training camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J., but Conn journeyed to the Yankee Stadium to see the Bombers beat the Tigers.

Bob Montgomery, lightweight champion of the world, yesterday was forced to request a postponement of his title clash with Allis Stolz, listed for Madison Square Garden on May 17. The champion, training in his home town of Philadelphia, suffered a deep cut on his forehead. Several stitches were taken in the cut, which will take a month to heal completely.

Stol zwill continue training in the hope that a suitable opponent can be found for him by Matchmaker Nat Rogers of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club.

LOUIS IN TOP SHAPE FOR TITLE CONTEST

New York Times

Impresses Experts After Six Rounds of Sparring—Conn Sharpens Left Hand

New York, N.Y.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., May 30 (UP)—All the boxing experts at Joe Louis' training camp, including the heavyweight champion himself, took turns in emphasizing today that the Brown Bomber already is in excellent condition for his championship bout with Billy Conn on June 19.

"I feel fine and I'm well satisfied with myself and certain I'm rounding into top form," Louis said, after a fast workout before a large holiday crowd. When a newspaper man told Louis that Conn already had boxed 195 rounds in training, the champion said, "That's a lot of rounds. He better save a few for me." *Friday*

Harry Wills, veteran Negro heavyweight, attended the Louis' workout and was impressed with the Bomber's leg condition.

"That's the tip off and Louis' legs look great," Wills said. Promoter Mike Jacobs also was impressed with Louis' six-round performance against four sparring mates. *5-31-46*

Boxes Five Partners

GREENWOOD LAKE, N. J., May 30 (UP)—Billy Conn, sharpening up his left hooks and jabs, boxed nine rounds today.

The Pittsburgh challenger worked out with five sparring mates, boxing one round against Mickey McAvoy and two each against Jim Smith, Irv Sarlin, Jim Neville and Mickey Belluso. Conn spent 90 per cent of the time on developing his left hand.

A crowd of 400 persons attended the workout. Conn weighed 183 pounds after the session.

LOS ANGELES, May 30 (AP)—A California sportsman's special train will leave here June 15 to carry fans to the Joe Louis-Billy Conn heavyweight championship bout in New York, Frank Crowley, San Francisco sportsman, has announced. The party will arrive the morning of the bout, June 19, and start home the following day.

Conn & Louis Can Still React

P.M. New York, N.Y.

Sun 5-5-46

There have been occasions lately when doubt prevailed that peace indeed has really perched on the American sporting scene, among other things, but off what happened at the athletic commission's medical checkup on Joe Louis and Billy Conn over the week end you can write it down here that it has.

All the delightful daffiness of doubletalk and hullaballoo was there for the watching, with press photographers and newsreel men tumbling tripod over lightmeter and sports writers, commissioners, deputy commissioners and assistant deputies getting all tangled up with assorted other characters while Louis & Conn were given the double-o by Dr. William Walker.

The highlight of the whole affair was reached when Col. Eddie Eagan, chairman of the commission, read—for the fourth time in a row—a prepared speech about the whole big fight, which exuded sweetness and light and such stuff the first time, but got awful monotonous, 'specially to Eddie, at the end.

While all this was going on, Louis and Conn, stripped down to only trousers and shoes, were being tapped here and there by blink-eyed Dr. Walker, who found, eventually, that "their reactions are slower than they were prior to their first title bout, June 18, 1941." As whose ain't, Doc?

The report on their reactions was nothing as compared to Joe and Billy's report to each other, as pally [illegible] would-be killers as ever[illegible]e. They cut up old touches [illegible] golf, and overseas duty and stuff, but quit kidding when Joe asked Billy if "you got many tickets for the fight." Billy said he had enough, "but none for you, ya big lug."

Model

And so the newsreels ground and a bunch of gals craned their necks and waved pencils for autographs and now and then another commissioner tried to make a speech and Mushky Jackson went around "prespiring something fierce," as he allus says.

Sun 5-5-46

Eagan did explain that the fight June 19 will be guarded like the crown jewels, that everything will be done to keep it honest and worth while and even more so, because this fight probably will set a new box office record for attendance, etc.

He said the point-system of judging the fight, which he installed when he was appointed by Governor Dewey, will prevail for this fight, which means that "if rounds should end up even, the fight will be decided on total points." Because it's for 15 rounds, it seems hard to imagine now that rounds will be *that* even, but it could happen—but I doubt it will.

The reactions to which Doc Walker referred were responses in the arms and the legs to slight taps in the elbow and knee joints, and also changes in the pupils of the eyes to various intensities of light.

He added that both men are naturally (Ed. Note: Ahem!) a bit overweight and with the clothes on I spoke of, Louis weighed 224½ and Conn 195½. Some gave them as much as 10 pounds for the clothes and shoes, but half that is a closer figure, I'd say, after looking at the challenger and the champ.

Contracts were inked for formality, probably duplicates of the same one each has with Promoter Mike Jacobs, providing the exact financial terms as Mike has laid out.

That would give Louis 40 and Conn 20 per cent of the net gate, movie, and television rights. The fighters are also cutting up some of the receipts from the radio broadcast.

After the rhubarb, Louis returned to his training camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J., where he began boxing over the weekend the same camp where he trained for all his fights—save one. And that was the one he lost to Schmeling.

Conn went up to catch a ball game at the Stadium (nothing personal, Bill Dickey) and then he, too, headed for Greenwood Lake, N. J., where he will train until bell time in June.

For all I know, the commissioners are still making speeches. Anyway, the hullaballoo has started. Anything is a welcome change from the Derby.

—JOE CUMMISKEY

Heard and Overheard:

P.M. New York, N.Y.

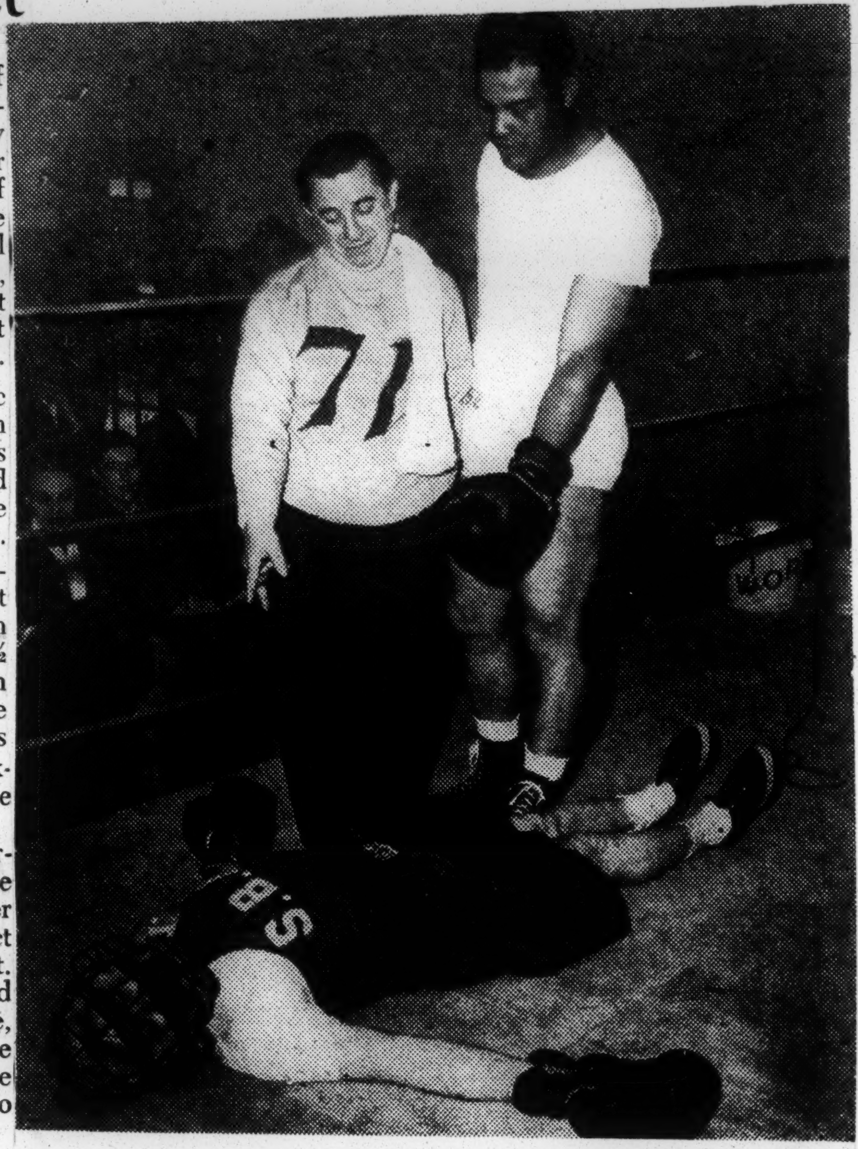
An Easy Win For Joe Louis

Fri. 4-26-46

By SEYMOUR PECK

What is it like to be in the ring with Joe Louis?

For the millions of fight fans who have watched Louis and shivered a little at the thought, WOR sportscaster Stan Lomax set out to get the answer. Monday he went to the Brown Bomber's training camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J., to go a few rounds with the champ. Right behind him was a battery of reporters, press agents, and photographers.



The winnah! Joe Louis stands over sportscaster Stan Lomax who's pretending to be knocked out. Joe Laurie, Jr., watches.

Joe Laurie, Jr., cigar-chewing, ex-vaudeville comic, now on *Can You Top This?*, came along as Lomax's second.

"But I'm pretty small," Laurie said. "Maybe you'd better call me his split second."

Louis was sitting on the porch of a bright green and white house when the bus drove up to the camp with the Lomax group. His feet were up on the railing: a small white cap with a green shade protected his eyes from the sun.

The crowd was led past the house into a gym building with a ring in the center, and wooden folding chairs around the ring. After a few minutes, Louis came in. He smiled a friendly smile at Lomax, whom he has known since he began fighting.

Lomax then explained to him how things would work. There was friendship and respect in Lomax's voice. He showed Louis a baseball catcher's mask which he planned to wear. A small microphone was attached to the mask. Wiring led from the mike to a recording apparatus in a far corner of the gym. Lomax would speak his thoughts while in the ring into this mike; they would be recorded. Then he would play the record that night over WOR for his listeners to hear.

"We'll make it quick," said Lomax, who knew the stunt might disturb Louis's training routine.

Both men went into dressing-rooms to get set for the bout. Lomax came out first, wearing purple trunks that looked much too large, and the full equipment of a baseball catcher—shin guards, chest protector and the mask with the microphone in it. Photographers got busy taking pictures. .

"What paper won't that appear in?" gagster Laurie asked each photographer.

Lomax then interviewed Louis briefly.

"I'm very rusty now," Louis said. "I hope to come around by June." He fights Billy Conn at Yankee Stadium June 19.

Lomax noticed that his sparring partners were much lighter than Louis. "Yes," explained Louis, "I'm working on speed. Conn's very fast." To get in shape, Louis said he would box 158 rounds before meeting Conn.

Then Lomax removed all the baseball equipment—except for the mask, it had been put on for the benefit of the photographers—and the two men climbed into the ring. Louis, young, trim and powerful, towered over the middle-aged, graying, sallow-faced sports announcer. Fri. 4-26-46

Louis seemed amused by the situation. He turned to Abe Green, New Jersey boxing commissioner. "Commissioner," he called out, "you gonna OK this match?"

The bell rang for the round to begin. The two men moved in on each other. "Louis looks like a terrifically big man," Lomax said into his mike.

Lomax came in crouching, bent way over, and flailed his arms energetically at Louis's waistline. Louis, standing erect, was unperturbed. He just stood there, managing not to return a blow, chewing gum unconcernedly.

"Joe hasn't hit me yet," Lomax said into his mike. He sounded a little out of breath, his voice quavered. The round lasted 40 seconds.

Laurie ran to Lomax's corner and made a great display of wiping the sweat from Lomax's face.

The bell rang for the second round. It lasted about ten seconds. Then Lomax, though he had not been hit at all, fell to the ground as though knocked out. The fight was over. Fri. 4-26-46

Louis had to go to work with his trainer, Mannie Seamon. Lomax and his entourage prepared to go back to New York.

What was it like to be in the ring with Joe Louis? Perhaps it was just as well Stan Lomax didn't find out.

Louis Pounds Sparmates In Workout

Washington Post Mon. 6/3/46 Washington, D.C.

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 2 (AP). **Joe Louis displayed some of his formidable punching ability today but the heavyweight champion also continued to be an easy target for his sparring partners.**

With little more than two weeks to go for his title defense against Billy Conn, there was some concern in the Brown Bomber's camp over his sluggishness and vulnerability.

Louis went six rounds indoors this afternoon. 6-3-46

Taking on Jimmy Bell for one round, the champ dropped his partner with a short left hook to the body. George Fitch, however, found Louis pretty easy to hit in his one-round drill.

Lanky Al Hoosman worked for two frames and in the last session Louis walloped him with a left hook that lifted the Los Angeles battler right off the floor. Perk Daniels went the final two rounds and he hit the champion pretty often. Louis, in a good humor, allowed Daniels a lot of liberty.

The Bomber will stay out of the ring tomorrow but will pick up his boxing chores Tuesday.

Conn Goes 6 Rounds In 'Great Workout'

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 2 (U.P.)—With one of his sparmates on the sidelines because of an overdose of blows, Billy Conn went six fast rounds against three other today in what Manager Johnny Ray called a "great workout."

Mickey McAvoy, huge heavyweight on whom Conn has been sharpening his punches, had to take the day off because of Billy's continual bombardment.

So Conn belabored his brother, Jackie, for two rounds and went the same distance against Jimmy Smith and Mickey Belluscio.

Conn Is In Better Shape Than Louis, Doctors Announce After Examinations

Greenwood Lake, N. J., June 13 (UP) — Dr. Vincent Nardiello of the New York Boxing Commission, examined Challenger Billy Conn today and said that he appeared to be in better physical condition than heavyweight champion Joe Louis, whom he examined Tuesday.

Nardiello and Dr. William H. Walker found that Conn's blood pressure before his workout was 130 over 68—a difference of 42. After 12 rounds of sparring and gym work it was 126 over 80, a difference of only 46.

Both physicians agreed that this was a remarkably low difference after so much exercise. Their examination of Louis revealed a difference of 160 over 80 after nine rounds of exercise, a finding that prompted them to state that the champion was liable to tire quickly.

Nardiello and Walker also stated that Conn's better physical status might be accounted for by nationality as well as age. They said that Negroes were inclined to mature early and that they begin to fade earlier.

There were numerous other developments today as the fighters went into the final stages of training for the title bout in New York's Yankee Sadium next Wednesday.

Chairman Eddie Eagan of the New York commission watched both fighters in sparring sessions and said he was impressed particularly with the effectiveness with which Louis threw his right hand.

Former Lightheavyweight Champion Bob Olin praised Conn's showing today, stating that "I believe he was the sharpest today that I've seen him."

However, Olin added that he was picking Louis to win via a knockout "within eight rounds."

Eagan said that he visited the two camps, merely to satisfy his own curiosity about the condition of the two fighters. He said both apepared to be in good shape, but that the thing that surprised him the most was the manner in which Louis was throwing straight rights and right hooks.

Jolting Joe's Famous Fights

By CHES WASHINGTON

Louis Drapes Roper on Ropes in Short Order

After stopping John Henry Lewis in the first round on Jan. 25, 1939, jolting Joe Louis took a month's rest and then returned to training in February to prep for his April 17 fight with Jack Roper in the magic city of Los Angeles. This was the time your correspondent flew 5,000 miles to cover a fight that lasted just a little over two minutes. Joe had wired me a few days before—on my birthday—that he wanted me to come out to the coast and cover the proceedings. So I hopped a silver TWA sky scooter and zoomed out to the City of the Angels.

Having dinner with Joe in Pasadena the day before the fight, I reminded the champ that I would have to wire a quick story back and asked him how he figured the fight would go.

"I'll stop him in the first round," Joe said confidently.

"How do you figure it that way," I asked.

"Well," said Joe, "he has one good hand and I have two . . . and when he throws his one good one, I'll shoot both of mine."

Well, that's just about the way it happened. But here's the way we reported it:

"RINGSIDE, WRIGLEY FIELD, LOS ANGELES, Cal,. April 17—Glass-jawed Jack Roper saw stars in this famous Hollywood haven after a two-minute twenty second personal appearance here tonight.

They weren't the glamorous film stars who cluttered up the first few rows that Jack saw.

And it wasn't that twinkling, mellow kind which beamed down from California's deep blue skies above.

But rather, they were those dazzling, fantastic stars that danced crazily before a pair of rolling, bleary eyes.

And those strange stars which appeared like a mirage before Roper as he hung on the ropes, draped there by a barrage of rights and lefts landed by heavyweight champion Joe Louis, blasted the titular hopes of California's cockiest challenger.

FINALE COMES AFTER 2 MINUTES

With a colorful, star-studded crowd of nearly 30,000 packing the park, Roper gave the best that he had for the home town folks. They can't say he didn't try. He proved he was game. But when he gambled with his left against the Bomber's murderous rights and lefts, Jack had little left when Joe's blows exploded. Then came the stars.

We saw such celebrated screen stars as Gary Grant, Tyrone Power, Virginia Bruce, Olivia DeHaviland, Mickey Rooney, Gracie Allen, Douglas Fairbanks, George Raft, Clarence Muse, Herbert Jeffries and several others.

But when Joe began blasting Rober, Jack saw more than any of us—he saw thousands of 'em.

A DRAMA-FILLED MOMENT

The two most dramatic moments of the fight came quickly. In the first one Roper was cast in a heroic role. Fighting from a right hand distance, the left handed Roper landed the first good blow of the fight . . . a left to the midsection. It was Jack's beau geste. The crowd roared.

But Joe shuffled forward again, lashing out with a long left. They swapped lefts in the center of the ring. Then Louis let go a terrific right that opened a cut under Jack's right eye. Seeing blood, Joe swung both of his fistic batteries into action. The Bomber straightened Roper up with two rights, then landed a crushing left and finally a mighty right to the head. The tremendous impact of that blow left Jack draped over the ropes. Then his legs let go and Roper dropped to the canvass.

Counting him out was a mere formality, for Jack was floating around in star-studded skies.

P. S. At one of the studios next day, we discovered that Roper was an expert electrician on one of the lots. Still he didn't know what to do when the lights went out.

This Morning

—With Shirley Povich

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 12.—Joe Louis came in at 2 p. m. from a six-mile walk, slept through a one-hour rubdown, and was still sleepy eyed when he shuffled into the press room for the daily workout with the correspondents.

POVICH

There was that story in the morning papers, the one where Dr. Vincent Nardiello of the boxing commission, said he was shocked at the champion's slow reflexes and quickened blood pressure with the fight only a week away. Did Joe read it?

"Yeah, and something's funny. Dr. Walker examined me at the same time and he said I was doing all right. That's good enough for me. Dr. Walker is the commission man, too, and he ought to know when I'm all right. He's been examining me for 12 years."

How come Louis was doing his road work in the afternoon, instead of the morning?

"I got sense enough to come in out of the rain I guess," said the champion. "I was on the road this morning when it started to rain, so I quit. I ought to be in shape. They tell me I've walked and run 458 miles since I been doing road work here."

From here in, what was his program? Was he going to have any more lay-offs?

"I'm boxing six rounds Thursday and lay off Friday. Saturday I'll box six, too, and Sunday may be eight. Monday I'm going four, and Tuesday I'll shadow box and skip rope, that's all."

A sly guy who was taking notes, pitched Joe a fast one. How many rounds did he plan to box Wednesday?

"Hey, wait a minute," said Joe. "That's something I can't answer yet. Why don't you ask Conn that question? I don't know how many round I'll box Wednesday, except it won't be any more than necessary."

He said, though, that the last round he boxes on Wednesday night would be his last round for the rest of the year, win or lose. "Even Uncle Mike isn't going to make me fight any more until 1947. The way the taxes are, I can't afford it."

The idea that Louis will lose his title to Conn next week is completely banished around the Louis camp. Last week the champion predicted flatly that he'd beat Conn and said he would catch up with him sometime during the fight.

When he was reminded that Conn was planning to stay away from Louis and be content to win the title on points instead of trying for a knockout as he did last time, Louis only grounted.

"I guess he'll run," said Louis, "but he can't hide."

"He's had pretty good luck against the men he's fought a second time, huh Joe?"

"Yea, I'm batting 1,000 against everybody who fights me the second time. They're batting .000, like they say in baseball. The second time around, I do pretty well."

What Louis would like to be doing today was watching the Tigers, his hometown team, play the Yankees in Yankee Stadium. "I only seen one game this year," he moaned, "but I picked out a good one. That's the day I saw Bobby Feller pitch that no-hitter against the Yankees."

Then he grinned. "Id like to see Conn pitch a no-hitter Wednesday night."

Joe walked out at the end of the interview, down the gravel path leading to his cottage and the privacy guarded by a State trooper.

Out of the ring he looks bigger than in it. Bigger even than the

212 pounds he is carrying.

"There goes the strongest man in the world," said George Fitch, one of his sparring partners. "You don't know how strong he is until you're in there with him. If he wants to tie you up inside, he clamps a lock on you with his arms that you can't move. He can turn you around and spin you around like you're a doll. You can feel his muscle."

Another sparring partner confided that it will take more than a brave man to beat Louis. In fact, he said, too much courage can be a handicap if you're fighting Louis. "If I had a fighter in there against Joe, I'd wish that he had a little dog in him and would run. There ain't nobody in the world who can stand up with him and try to get even.' Anybody who tries it is sure to be lugged out." E.D.

In this corner

Sports Fans Think Only Of Louis-Conn

By Bill Mardo

EIGHT more days to go.

A week and 24 hours and then, beneath the white arc-lights at Yankee Stadium, will unfold the bit of boxing drama which hasn't been paralleled since King Joe crippled a loud-mouthed Nazi within two minutes of avengeful, punching murder. *Daily Worker*

Louis and Conn. What magic in those two names. How many millions will be huddled around their radios next Wednesday, biting their nails, studying their shoe-laces with unseeing eyes, while over the air comes an account of the one fight everyone's been waiting for over a period of five, history-filled and blood-soaked years?

Personally, we can concentrate on little other sports news aside from the coming return title tilt. The madcap Red Sox, the surprising Dodgers, the troubled Yankees, the unsettled Cardinals, all of these very interesting and important developments in the world of baseball, seem to relegate into secondary importance beneath the weight of the world's heavyweight championship bout. *New York, N.Y.*

It's amazing, isn't it, how important a prize-fight can seem in these tense and troubled days. Yet it's easy to understand. For particular prize-fights, down through history, have always earned a special place in the attention of people everywhere. It was that way with Corbett's game try against Jeffries, Johnson and Jeffries, Tunney and Dempsey, Louis and Schmeling, and now, Conn against Louis. *Tuesday 6-11-46*

Yes, that something special. It does seem that there have always been two boxers who "had to meet" and settle things. And always circumstances surrounded such bouts which made even the non-sports fan eager to wait for, study, and venture an opinion about the "Big Fight."

This fight between Joe Louis and Billy Conn is, of course, full of such worldwide appeal and drama. The greatest heavyweight who ever lived is going up against a supremely talented battler, who five years ago, came closest to dethroning the immortal title-holder. And now, Father Time has stepped in, as he always has, to bear heavily upon the outcome. *6-11-46*

Does Louis still have his old punching speed and coordination? Can Conn count upon all of his old mercury-tipped footwork? Can Louis win without a knockout?

So many questions. Everybody's asking them, everybody's got an answer to suit themselves. And the sports-writers? All they can do is watch two men work out, observe to the extent that mere training camp performances allow one to judge, and then, like all other mortals, make a selection to conform with their own opinions.

Nothing will be truly settled, nothing will be completely answered until the night of the 19th.

And then everybody will have the answers. All at the same time. "Experts" and non-experts.

For hasn't this always been the way?

In this corner

Conn Catches Too Many From Sparmates

By Bill Mardo

GREENWOOD LAKES, N. J.—Like the guy he hopes to outpoint June 19, Billy Conn is in remarkable shape. Here at Teddy Gleason's Hotel, the Pittsburgh Kid is entering the last lap of a grueling grind. Down to 183 pounds, the former light-heavy king is struggling now to maintain his sharpness. That Conn is on edge is quite obvious to even the most casual observer. Billy's tough, sometimes surly, and impatient for that opening bell which will shatter the tense night air at Yankee Stadium ten days hence. *Daily Worker*

Before a packed indoor audience at the hotel, the handsome Irishman donned the big pillows and stepped into the ring for a six-round session against Mickey McAvoy, Jimmy Smith, and Mike Belluscio. *New York, N.Y.*

We must admit, however, that unlike other scribes our first look at the challenger didn't exactly leave us gasping. The big, bulky 240-pound McAvoy, who's so fat that Tony Galento would look like an adonis alongside him, had little difficulty in tagging Conn with solid shots to the head and jaw. In the very first minute of Billy's opening session, McAvoy maneuvered him against the ropes and whistled through a short, sharp left hook to the jaw and then crossed over with a clean right chop. We couldn't resist thinking that if a lumbering hulk of a man was able not only to spot such an opening but also capitalize on it so neatly—what would Joe Louis have done if presented with the same opportunity? Conn spent the remainder of the round moving to McAvoy's left and shooting out with southpaw slants to Mickey's inviting midriff.

With Johnny Ray shouting for Billy to "move and stick" in the second stanza, the Pittsburgher began to **fly** around with more of the style that's expected of him. But burly McAvoy continued to stalk him and lashed out with a fast hook to the belly. Again McAvoy steered Billy to the ropes and with Billy's back to the hempen, McAvoy crossed over another right to the button much in the same manner he had done in round one. Conn fell into a clinch, banged away to the midsection and hooked to the head as he stepped back and away from his big sparmate. Once more McAvoy tagged Billy with a left hook to the face which spun him into the ropes. Now, though, Conn opened up in high. He whizzed around the ring, all the while, pegging out with snappily accurate left hooks to the jaw. McAvoy looped an overhand right to the head as the round ended.

In our opinion, Billy's session with McAvoy didn't constitute the kind of showing he'll have to put on against Louis if he's to stand a chance. He'd been caught with far too many hard blows to the jaw by an obese sparmate who's a million times slower than Louis and at least ten-million times less of a sharpshooter than the great Negro champ. Conn also seemed sluggish in getting off the ropes, and indeed, that's where McAvoy had delivered his most telling blows.

Billy looked much better against lean Jimmy Smith. He moved around much faster, put on a beautiful exhibition of feinting with his feet and hooking first to the stomach and then the head. Toward the end of the first round the unaggressive Smith accidentally brushed Billy's right eye with an open glove and Conn barked at him angrily when the round ended. The challenger was surprisingly sore over this incident and forgot all about his boxing lessons in the second session and flew into Smith with a mad exchange of punches. But the Conn helper was in no mood to be banged around and roused out of his lethargy to give Billy as much as the handsome Conn dished out to him. Smith proved himself a sharp, fast-punching hombre in that round and wound up only a slight second-best in the fierce punching that marked the round. *Tues. 6-8-46*

There wasn't too much action in the last two stanzas which Billy worked with Mike Belluscio. Conn concentrated on his footwork, but varied tactics occasionally by sneaking into his foe with a right cross to the jaw. Billy's punching was sharp in those few flurries.

But as we said at the outset, the day's workout wasn't overly impressive. For Conn had been hit far too often, far too solidly, and that's one thing he can't afford in his fight against the champ.

Joe's Camp Is Minus Old Pals

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

By WENDELL SMITH

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—The sharp winds of Time have swept away with a startling thoroughness all but three of the exciting and famous personalities who were identified with Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis and his rustic training camp retreats of just a few years ago. *6-8-46*

Other than the Champion himself, Bill Bottoms, the famous chef, and George Nicholson, the ever-ready sparring partner, Louis' intimate official entourage is composed of new faces. This new aggregation of personalities is just as concerned about the fortunes of the King of Fistiana as the old, but despite its paternal attitude these recent "immigrants" seem to lack the color, glamour and officious assurance of those who used to direct the destinies of the Champion.

Gone is suave, blase John Roxborough, who managed the young "Dark Destroyer" from Detroit with an authority that has never been equaled in boxing history. Refined and cultured, Roxborough faced the intricate problems tossed into his lap as coolly as Louis faced his opponents in the ring. *Sat.*

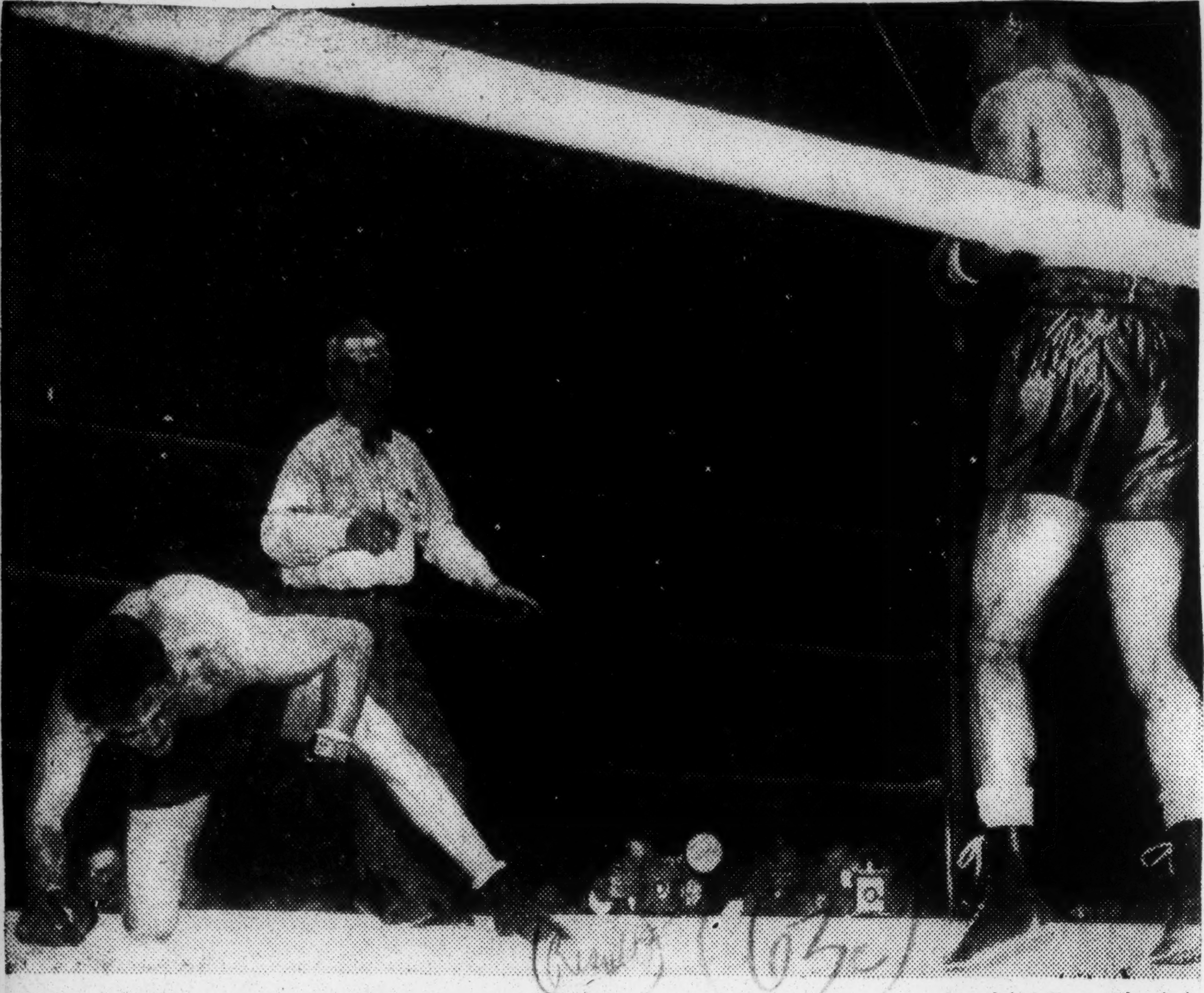
Working with Roxborough was slick-haired, rough and ready Julian Black. A resident of Chicago and wise in the ways of the ruthless buccaneers who roamed the turbulent seas of the fight world, he formed a perfect partnership with Roxborough and together they chalked the path that Louis was to follow. That path eventually led him to the heavyweight championship of the world.

Probably the wisest selection that Roxborough and Black ever made was the day they called in the wise and capable Jack Blackburn as Joe's trainer. Once a great fighter himself, Blackburn took young Joe to school, showed him the ways and the pitfalls of the fight game. He tutored, coached and instructed the hard-hitting youth from Detroit with a methodical thoroughness that brought results far beyond the expectations of the two managers.

The lesser light of this famous combination was personable Freddie Guinyard of Detroit, a rollicking, pleasure-loving guy who acted as Joe's personal secretary and bosom buddy.

This conglomoration of personalities made the Joe Louis camp the most colorful and interesting of them all. The might of Louis' fists made him the most glamorous athlete in the nation and he was surrounded by men who added even more lustre to the fascinating picture. Whenever Joe pitched his camp it was a signal for newspapermen to come running. No other camp attracted so many outstanding writers and no other fighter enjoyed such a great press. People came from far and near to get a taste of the exciting atmosphere and rub elbows with famous writers, Broadway stars, the wealthy and the members of the fight mob. There were Grantland Rice, Damon Runyon, Paul Gallico, Ches Washington, Burris Jenkins, George Raft, Harry Wills, Rooster Hammond, Teddy Horne, Woogie Harris, Mushky Jackson, Jimmy Walker, Bill Robinson and a host of others who had fame, if nothing else.

There is a sharp contrast today, however. The man Joe always called "Mister Roxborough" is not here, nor is Julian Black. Jack Blackburn is dead. Freddie Guinyard has also bowed out of the picture. Only Bill Bottoms, George Nicholson and the champ himself are left of that original combination. And most of the people who used to make a Joe Louis camp big news are missing.



Associated Press Wirephoto

BILLY CONN GOES DOWN—Here is Pittsburgh's Billy Conn on the canvas. He was knocked out in the eighth round of a scheduled 15-round bout Wednesday night by Joe Louis, who easily defended the title he won nine years ago.

Solon, Jacobs Battle In Conn-Louis Climax

NEW YORK, June 20—(UP)—Congressman Donald O'Toole, of New York, and Promoter Mike Jacobs squared off verbally Thursday for a fight that promised to be far more entertaining than Wednesday night's Louis-Conn fiasco, the cause of their hostilities.

At Washington, Rep. O'Toole announced that he has insrtucted his lawyers in New York to bring a $100,000 criminal libel suit against Jacobs for "accusing me of extortion."

O'Toole's announcement came as a quick counter-punch to Jacobs' statement that O'Toole was trying to stir up an investigation of the Louis-Conn farce because O'Toole's office allegedly had asked Mike for complimentary tickets to the fight and had been refused.

Fri. 6-21-46

Jacobs said Thursday night "I'll welcome O'Toole's suit. But I don't believe he'll dare to go throug with it. He's just trying to get his name in the papers, at my expense, because he's comign up for election soon. He wants to dish it out; but he can't take it."

O'Toole landed the first blow earlier, by announcing in Washington that he had asked the New York Boxing Commission to hold up the Louis-Conn purses pending an investigation of the $1,925564 fistic farce. He said he had telegraphed this request to Commission Chairman Eddie Eagan.

O'Toole demanded that Jacobs be barred from using the mails becaause "he has been defrauding the public."

Atlanta

Eagan said he had not received any telegram from O'Toole.

Republican Eagan then commented caustically upon the fact that Democrat O'Toole was talking about a fight that he had seen only by television. Eagan added, "I see no reason why any Congressman would make inquiries about the fight if he had not the sporting instincts to come and see it in the first place." Eagan is a former Olympic boxing champion.

Because of the O'Toole-Jacobs fireworks, the Louis-Conn checks were picked up hurriedly lest they be held up. While Louis played golf at Yonkers, N. Y., his manager, Marshall Miles, picked up the champ's check for $625,916, and Conn personally received his, for $312,958. Fri. 6-21-46

Conn Numb; He Couldn't Get Up in 8th

Times-Dispatch, Richmond, Va.
Thurs. 6-20-46

Reprinted from Yesterday's Late Edition

NEW YORK, June 19—(AP)—"I can't fight. I'm through, boys, I'll never fight again. It's the kid's last fight."

Billy Conn sat on a rubbing table in his dressing room as he verbally ended his ring career, and although his words might indicate a brooding dejection, there was nothing like that in his attitude. He was as cheerful and alert as anyone could be who had just been knocked cold by the fists of Joe Louis, and realized a dream of five long years had been shattered in a matter of seconds.

"Did he hurt me?" He laughed in answer to a question. "He knocked me on my pants. He must have hurt me. But I wasn't hurt before that. But he hit me a daisy then." 6-20-46

The rebuffed challenger rubbed his nose tenderly as he talked, the nose had taken a beating and had a cut across it, and there was a bruise under his left eye. Otherwise he showed little outward effect from the blasting he took in a matter of seconds in that eighth round.

Nose Not Broken

A doctor wedged his way through the crowd and felt Billy's nose with expert fingers. "I don't think it's broken," he said.

A late comer asked again what had happened. Billy laughed.

"He hit me on the jaw, that's all," he said. "I had planned to keep moving and tire him out, and was all ready to go to work on him when it happened. He's a great puncher. I heard the count, but I couldn't get up. 6-20-46

"My legs were in great shape, but I just couldn't do anything in there. But Joe's a great fighter. Maybe not quite as good as the last time we met, but still good."

The photographers were giving Billy the works from every angle.

"Give us a big smile, Billy," one of them said. Conn turned his engaging grin toward the camera.

Joe Louis Knocks Out Conn In 8th

Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky.

Joe Louis retained his heavyweight boxing championship of the world by knocking out Billy Conn in the eighth round of their scheduled 15-round championship fight last night in New York.

Stalking his elusive prey from the start, the Brown Bomber from Detroit finally caught up with him in the middle of the eighth. He lifted Conn into the air with a vicious left hook. He followed with smashing rights to batter the Pittsburger to the floor. As Conn sank, Louis landed a devastating left that finished him. The knockout came after 2 minutes, 19 seconds of the round had elapsed. Thurs 6-20-46

Second Largest In History.

In their first meeting, almost five years ago to the night, Louis knocked out Conn in the 13th round when the Irishman became careless after getting ahead on points.

Last night Conn was most discreet, making the champion chase him until the finish. He studiously avoided getting in close with Louis, in contrast to their first battle. In that fight, Conn concentrated on Louis' body.

Louis triumphed before a crowd of 45,266 fans, who paid $1,925,564, the second largest fight gate in history. It is exceeded only by the $2,658,660 gate drawn by the second Tunney-Dempsey fight, in 1927. Louis weighed 207 and Conn 182.

RALPH McGILL

Apologetic After Conn-Louis

Atlanta Constitution

As the smell of the Louis-Conn fight slowly reaches the olfactory nerves of the nation, it is interesting to note that in the 30 or so newspapers read each day some of the reporters who covered the fight were a bit apologetic.

Thursday 6-24-46

It was as if they wished they could recall some of their adjectives, superlatives and similes and save them for another, and better, day. Great crowds are exciting. When gathered to witness a fight, eager to express the thinned-out blood-lust handed down from some ancient tribe which fought for its meat and life, they are subjected to a pumping of the adrenal glands. Some of this inevitably reaches the typewriter. I know from experience.

It was something else I seemed to read in them. It was a between-the-lines uneasiness that not only had the fight been meaningless and dull, but that the next one also would be false and without substance.

It was as if the reporters were saying to themselves that a new set of values was needed for the sports boom that is coming; that the old words and phrases would have to be revised.

I could be wrong. But reading them, that is what many of them seemed to be saying.

Change Things do change, and not always for the best. I was thinking about the Open Golf Tournament of a few days ago. Golf has changed tremendously.

It is very easy for a player or spectator lately come to golf to assume that there are more great golfers today than ever before. Certainly the constant string of tournaments with their players shooting 67s, 68s and 69s, with an occasional slip to 71 thrown in, would seem to indicate that this truly is the day of the gods in golf.

But, now and then, or so it seems to be, I detect a sort of uneasiness among the rank and file of golf reporters. Some of them seem, now and then, a little uncomfortable over the fact that the 68s, 69s and 70s come with such regularity from the production belt of tournaments.

Atlanta Constitution

That, it seems to me, is exactly what we have done—made of golf a mechanized sport without any of the finer nuances of style or skill which used to produce an occasional 68, but which was regarded with a certain awe if it were regularly around a par of 71 or 72.

6-24-46

Let me hasten freely to say that I am no expert. Nevertheless, to the mere observer, it ought to be apparent that the old days of hickory-shafted clubs demanded mastery. Each driver, spoon or iron club had its own particular quality of whip, torque and "feel". Another club from the same maker and from the same materials would be an entirely new club to be learned and mastered. The modern set of golf clubs, with their machine-made qualities of steel and scientific testing, are all alike. They require the same machine-like use and will deliver as faithfully. It is not necessary

to know their non-existant weaknesses and strengths.

Pattern So, too, do the golf courses themselves run more to pattern, being neatly clipped and manicured because, forsooth, they must not be too difficult for the average player.

The result—there are any number of "great" golfers fellows. But no one gets too excited about them as they did when Bob Jones was on the march or Walter Hagen was on his way needing a birdie to win.

I would be willing to wager something important, say a large, two-inch-thick sirloin steak, that if all the "great" players of today were suddenly given sets of wooden-shafted clubs and put back on the old courses with plenty of rough, there would be an immediate and lasting slump up into the middle 70s.

After a while two or three would master them and emerge as great players. And then you would hear no more of the rest of them.

I don't really care and I don't think it very important. It is just that I am beginning to be more and more chary of employing the adjective "great".

Boxing The fight racket has always been pretty much of a racket. But it did have a national aspect. It was possible for a young fighter to come along from some small fight club and get his try in New York without having to carry around three or four of the leeches who are attached to the New York fight monopoly. Without them no young fellow can get a chance. He has to cut them in. So, the boxing business has died out in St. Louis and Kansas City and Los Angeles and New Orleans and in other smaller towns that used to have their share of kids eager to get their brains knocked out trying for the big dream.

Joe Louis is without doubt one of the four or five best heavyweights the game has known. But, we will never know what he could have done against a fighter with imagination and ambition. There can't be any so long as the leeches in New York have to be "cut in," and so long as he has to be subjected to their "management".

Again, I don't really care. But I still think I read something of this feeling between the lines of the second and third-day stories after the Conn-Louis farce.

It is going to be interesting to see if we will remain a nation of sophomores, or if the war gave us some new values. Will we chase off after the politician or the sports show with the largest neon lights and the loudest, most garish ballyhoo, hollering, "Our greatest hero"? Or not?

ALL IN THE GAME

JACK TROY

Memory Lane NEW YORK, June 19—A couple of other Louis fights came crowding back into memory in the long wait for the heavyweight championship bout Wednesday night at Yankee Stadium.

The excitement of the second Louis-Schmeling fight has been seldom topped in sports. There was excitement bordering on hysteria as Louis hammered the German into insensibility in the first round.

Events happened too fast for even those around the ringside to see all too clearly. It was modified murder. Schmeling managed to escape, however, with only a broken back.

There was something comic or perhaps pathetic about the Louis-Nova fight. Nova had no business in the same ring with the champion. There had been a barrel of ballyhoo about the "cosmic punch." It was really a comic punch and Louis was virtually able to name the round in which he wanted to end the fight. This fight proved there's no limit to the possibilities of clever ballyhoo.

A couple of Southern visitors, Joe Engel and Maurice Bloch, went to Yankee Stadium early. They were guests in the famous new clubroom which is reserved for special patrons of the New York team.

Col. Larry MacPhail is enjoying fabulous success. The Yankees are now working on their second million in attendance and may go as high as 3,000,000 this season.

Mangrum Visits A popular sports hero reached the big town in advance of the heavyweight title fight and wasn't swallowed up in the fistic ballyhoo, by any means.

Lloyd Mangrum, winner of the Purple Heart and the lion-hearted winner of the National Open, was roundly congratulated for his brilliant finish in a second play-off against Byron Nelson and Vic Ghezzi.

Mangrum long has been one of the more popular of the pro players. In the midst of war, he wrote from Europe that he hoped nothing would happen to interfere with the schedule of play. Later he was wounded at Bastogne.

Fred Corcoran, tournament manager of the PGA, was speaking pridefully of Mangrum's Open triumph in a pre-fight conversation.

"Remember the record-breaking 64 he shot at Augusta in 1940? I recall quite a few other notable records Mangrum made. He had made quite a reputation for breaking records and not winning championships. Now he has captured the Open. I can't think of anything more fitting in golf's first season of postwar play," Corcoran observed.

Ruby's Report

Louis Let Fight Go 8 Rounds To Prove Conn's Supposed Boxing Edge Was All Hokum

New York, June 20.—Why did **Joe Louis** wait eight rounds to cool **Billy Conn?** . . . I have my own little personal idea. . . . I think he had been reading the papers too closely. . . . He had been absorbing all that guffle about what a terrific boxer **Billy Conn** was that he wanted to show the reporters that he also, could step around a bit. . . . The much advertised courage of the smiling Irishman was nowhere in evidence as the two boys squared off for America's first major ring meeting in four years. . . . He seemed extremely wary, or frightened if you like, from the first gong. . . . The feel of that 4-year-old knockout seemed to still rest heavily on his chin. . . .

Joe, on the other hand, was self-assurance personified. He stalked the retreating contender relentlessly, shuffling in quietly, easily, freely without working up a sweat. . . . It seemed that he could end the fight at any moment he chose, but he simply kept after the elusive Billy until it seemed h ehad convinced himself and the writers that he was the better boxer, as well as the master slugger, and until he found himself in a spot that was too good to pass up. . . . He then cut loose with everything he had and the show was over. . . .

Joe Louis

The fans were unwilling to accept their appraisal of the brief fisticuff, however. . . . Said one, "Why all that little bum **Conn** did was make funny faces." . . . Said another, "I saw **Joe** after the knockdown wink at that colored girl sitting next to **Milton Berle** in the third row. He was just playing. He wasn't fighting." . . . Another moaned, "I paid $300 for that $100 seat and I wish I'd 'a sold it for 30 cents. The only fight on the card was the last, and I didn't stay for it." . . . "If **Conn** was so damn dead game," said another, "why didn't he try to make a fight of it. All he did was back up until **Joe** overtook him, and wham!"

Corum Says It Was No Conn-test'

My friend **Joe Williams**, in discussing the oddities of the evening this morning recalled several other "ill-bred boors" discussing some of the more obscure phases of the spectacle. . . . "I give the bum credit for one thing," said one, "he didn't lose his head." . . . "Didn't lose his head! Why when Louis put the finisher on him in the eighth I see the bum's head going all the way out into centerfield and a fellow in the bleachers catches it on the fly and Larry Macphail says 'keep it, that the Stadium's policy on foul balls.'" Said another of Williams' pals, "Louis could have chilled him in the first round if he'd a'wanted to. You know why he didn't, don't you—the pictures! The pictures! Louis gets 40 peh cent of the pictures. So he carried the bum far enough to make 'em sell good."

In looking back over the evening's disappointments you can't help but recall Louis's bit of training camp philosophy—"He sure can run, but he can't hide." I suspected his publicity men thought it up for him until I saw the fight. . . . Billy sure did run. . . . And he sure couldn't hide. . . . And Joe was so confident that victory was his for the asking that on one or two occasions in the early rounds when he seemed to have the challenger at his mercy he backed away and permitted the white boy to recover.

Braddock

Leaving the Stadium, one fan was heard to remark, "between the two of them Conn and Louis made more than a million bucks tonight. Nice work if you can get it." . . . To which another replied, "Whadda'ya mean, work!"

To quote Bill Corum, "It was strictly no Conn-test." . . . "Billy came into the ring frozen and never thawed out." . . . Conn told reporters afterward that he felt fine until he got into the ring. . . . "Then I realized," he said, "that I wasn't the fighter I used to be." . . . Joe said, "I can't account for it. Billy really had nothing."

The bout was the 22d title defense for Joe since he took the championship from Jim Braddock in 1937. . . . One or two boys have been suggested as his likely later opponents. . . . If they take Uncle Earl's advice these lads will lay away their gloves until the Brown Bomber, like the atom bomb, is legislated out of competition.

Harlem Backing Their Joe Louis With Solid Cash

By **STEVE SNIDER**

New York, June 19.—(U.P.): Harlem was down solid on Joe Louis tonight.

There's ready cash up there, more than at any time since Louis shot to fame, and every spare dime that could be "invested" was put to work with Joe.

"Lordy, lordy," said a gold-toothed bootblack near a midtown subway station, "ah never seen anything like what hit Harlem this week.

"The big boys is here from out of town and they got some terrific action."

From Chicago, New Orleans, Detroit, Los Angeles and San Francisco came the "big boys", flashily, but expensively dressed and you could spot them by their big rented cars as they rolled around looking for their "action".

Since all of Harlem wanted to bet on Louis the out of town money boys had to trick up fancy bets to protect their rolls, such as even money that Conn wouldn't last 10 rounds, 9 to 5 that he'd go five or 5 to 1 that he'd last out the first heat.

A Harlem street corner poll brought unanimous backing for Louis but also showed a surprising mellowness of attitude in contrast to the situation in the early days of Louis's career.

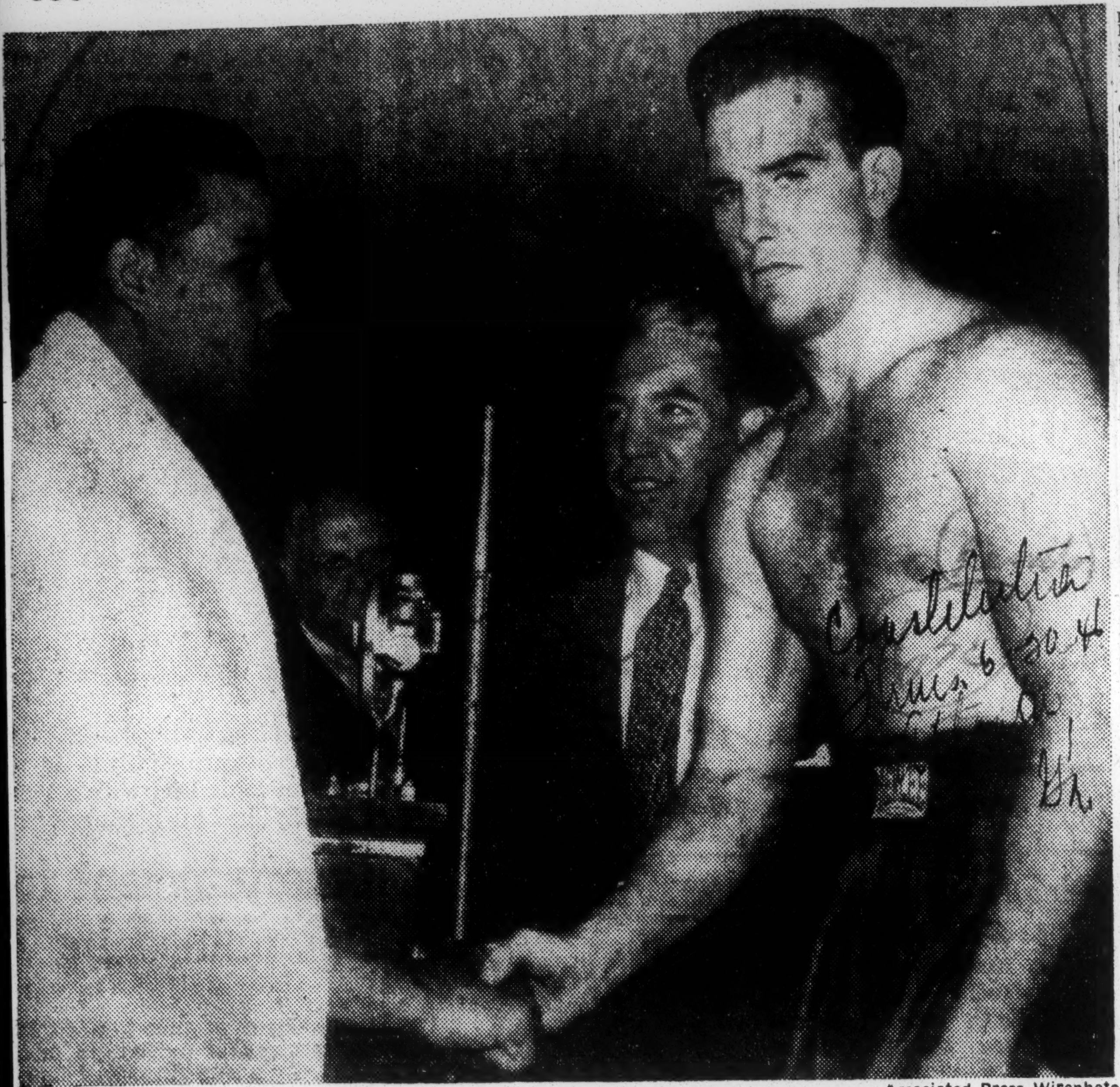
The first two polled said they had bet on Louis but "hoped the best man would win".

Another gave Conn a good chance to win."

Like Louis fans the nation over, Harlem feared that Louis's term in the army had injured his fistic career. Much of the supreme prefight confidence they showed before the title fight with Jimmy Braddock or the second bout with Max Schmeling was missing.

On V-Joe night, the night he won the championship from Braddock, they turned Harlem upside down. When Schmeling came back to meet Louis after belting him out the first time, Harlem began its "victory" celebration long before the fight began and when it was all over it was a mad city within a city.

Playing it safe, the gold-toothed bootblack who didn't like all the betting action going on up in his neighborhood said he was "stayin" home tonight with the door locked.



Associated Press Wirephoto

BEFORE THE BIG BATTLE—Challenger Billy Conn (right) and World Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis appear a bit grim as they weigh in before their title fight in New York's Yankee Stadium last night. Louis entered the ring at 207 pounds and Conn at 182, a 25-pound difference.

Champion Batters Conn To Keep Title

YANKEE STADIUM, NEW YORK, June 19—Joe Louis retained his heavyweight boxing championship here Wednesday night when he knocked out Billy Conn in the eighth round of their 15-round title fight.

A vast crowd of some 65,000 fans was in the stands. The gate was estimated at $2,250,000.

The referee was Eddie Joseph, same arbiter who was in the right for the first meeting. The judges were Jack O'Sullivan and Frank Forbes.

The blow by blow account follows:

ROUND ONE

They danced around for several seconds, Joe missing two light left leads. Conn moved from side to side as Joe stalked him. Joe was short with another left lead. Conn bounced two light jabs off Joe's eye. Again Billy flicked with his left. Conn slipped another jab across as Joe raised his body with a left. Lewis landed a hard right on the head. Joe bounded a hard right left on the head and took a hook to the body in return. Billy's left was short and landed on the shoulder but he dug two lefts to the body. Louis was stalking Conn but neither had landed solidly at the bell after a round of slow fighting and the crowd booed. Conn's round.

ROUND TWO

Conn suddenly ripped in with a hard right to the eye and a left to the body. There was a dull red mark alongside Louis eye. Conn bounced a hook off the body as Joe landed a hard right to the head. Joe rushed in, missed a right but landed two left jabs. Conn circled around sticking with his left. Joe jabbed a ripping right to the face. Again Louis bounced his left off Conn's features. Billy was short with two lefts, then hustled in with a short right on the head. Billy picked off a long left lead as he circled around. Momentarily Conn clowned around as he kept Louis off. Joe was just short with a left at the bell. Louis' round.

ROUND THREE

Con tore in with a hoog to head and body. Joe flicked to the face with his left and took one in the face in return. Joe reached over with a long left high on the head. Conn tossed a hook to the body. They exchanged long left jabs. Joe was short with two left leads. Suddenly Billy slashed in with a hard hook to the body and another to the face. They traded lefts with no damage. Joe stabbed out with a long left to the midsection. Joe's left hook was picked off and Billy stuck two lefts to the tummy. Joe hooked a left to the head at the bell. Conn's round.

ROUND FOUR

They still were measuring each other. Conn came in with a left hook to the body and received a left and right to his own midsection. They traded long left jabs and repeated the process. For fully 15 seconds not a blow was tried by either man. Joe cornered Conn and ripped two lefts and a right to the head. Joe was just short with a smashing right and jabbed two sizzling lefts to the face. Conn pecked away with a jab and took two of the same from Joe. Joe was very wild with a right cross but bounced a hard straight left off Billy's face. He put three more in the same spot. Conn half-slipped on the ring floor and Louis stepped back just as the bell sounded. Louis' round.

ROUND FIVE

Louis jabbed twice with his left as Conn circled him. Another jab reddened Conn's face. They traded short lefts to the body. Billy picked off two lefts and landed a hook to the face as Joe dug a right to the body. They exchanged jabs. Joe was just short with another ripping right. Louis leaped in with a hard right hand that shook Conn. Joe caught Conn with a smashing right and left to the head. Louis flicked with a jab. Conn flicked a right to the face. Louis caught Conn in a corner with a hard right to the body but took a left and right from Conn at the bell. Louis' round.

ROUND SIX

Joe reached out a long left to the face and repeated the process. Billy circled out of trouble and jumped in with a left to the head. Joe landed two left pabs. Joe tried three more left jabs but only one landed. Conn flicked away with four left jabs. Louis caught Conn against the ropes with a left to the head and a right to the ribs. In close Louis bounced a left off the ear. Joe drew a right cross high on the head. Conn jumped in with a swinging hook to the ear and circling away slipped to one knee. They traded hard left jabs. Billy grinned as Joe landed another jab. Louis was fild with a long left and took a jab to the nose at the zell. Louis' round.

ROUND SEVEN

They both were short with left leads. Louis landed a jab on the forehead. Joe dug a left to the body. Conn danced in with a hard left to the ear and then took a short chopping left on the face. Joe measured Billy against the ropes but Conn closed in before Louis let go the punch. Louis straightened Conn up with a left jab but his follow-up right was too high to make trouble. Conn hooked a left to the body but took a left-right and left to his own midsection in close. Conn ducked inside as Joe fired a right to the body. Billy landed a hook flush on the mouth but took a left to the head at the bell. Louis' round.

ROUND EIGHT

Billy bounced a left off the face as he circled Joe. Joe was still the aggressor trying to corner the challenger. Billy bounced a left off the face and took one himself. Louis caught Conn coming in with a left to the face but missed with a right cross. In close Louis fired a jolting right to the ear. They traded straight hard lefts. In close Louis fired five punches that straightened Conn up. Louis smashed Billy full in the face and a dull red mark appeared on Billy's face. Louis fired a hard left, and Conn was down for the count.

Sports of the Times

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

By ARTHUR DALEY

The Winnah and Still Champion

YESTERDAY was the day scheduled for Joe Louis' biggest fight. The authority for that statement was the Brown Bomber himself. It was a month ago that the champion, an amused glint in his eyes, confided: "The big fight will come the day after I'm through with Billy Conn, 'cause that's when me and Uncle Mike is gonna have a fight over money." The champion undoubtedly will find Michael Strauss Jacobs a far tougher foeman than Billy the Kid, since Uncle Mike is a deft counter-puncher with tremendous experience in fiscal circles. When he scents a dollar sign in the vicinity he relentlessly bores in for the kill.

The fight between the Dark Destroyer and the boxing promoter has to be better than the one between the champion and the Conn Man. It couldn't be worse. If the Louis-Conn engagement had been an ordinary main event in the Garden the customers would have booed it out of the arena. But there is a certain brittle tenseness to a championship bout which is its saving grace. At least it was to this observer, who didn't have to pay one thin dime to see it. However, at $100 a clip—and what a clip!—it certainly was something else again.

No one can blame Louis for it. He was willing to fight. The culprits were Conn and Jacobs, the handsome challenger for practicing his dancing lessons in public and the unhandsome promoter for stubbornly presenting this turkey—and meat's so hard to get these days—without any preliminary tune-ups. Just one of them might have revealed that the Conn Man, like the Old Gray Mare, "ain't what she used to be." But maybe not. The Jacobs stooges toured the camps and gave learned opinions that the wild Irishman was a shoo-in. Even a tune-up bout might have indicated little.

Jabs, Two Varieties

Conn always will be flashy and spectacular. Even in this fight (?) his left jabs were things of beauty. They caught the eye and undoubtedly impressed the peasants in the rear pews. But the Louis jabs, traveling only a few inches, weren't as noticeable—until you discovered red, ugly welts appearing on the Conn forehead. That was the tip-off. The champion, unperturbable and unmarked, reached his corner at the end of the first round and, even though hardly a blow had been struck in anger, the ringside observers knew that he was in.

Both the fighters knew it, too. As you watched the Shuffler shuffling forward, implacably stalking his prey, a Louis remark came instantly to mind. When one writer raved about the consummate Conn boxing skill in Joe's presence not so long ago, the champion remarked in a rare display of annoyance: "I box pretty good, too." The Dark Destroyer actually gave a boxing lesson to the bold pretender and he gave him a mighty thorough beating as well.

The first indication that the end was near seemed to come at the finish of the sixth round. At the bell each had to pass the other to get to his corner. Conn gazed wonderingly at Louis as he walked by him and shook his head as if to say: "This man's too tough. I can't do anything with him." The phlegmatic Louis, Buddha in repose, strolled past Billy and, hand at side, mischievously flicked him with a love tap on the seat of his pants, as if to infer: "It won't be long now, Billy Boy." Louis sat on his stool and a trace of a smile broke across his emotionless features.

It was just before the start of the eighth that Joe looked up at his trainer, Mannie Seaman, and drawled: "I'm going out to fight this fellow and see if he can take it." They touched gloves at ring center in that time-honored gesture, the "handshake" that always precedes the last round. The last round? Did they both sense it? No one ever will know.

The Big Explosion

When Louis struck, he exploded punches. A barrage set Conn up for his journey down Queer Street. But the three rock-crushers that finished him were a right to send him toppling and then a quick left and right to complete the job. No one could miss that sequence. One fellow did, though. In his dressing room afterward the Dark Destroyer said that he did his job of destruction with a right, a right and a left. He was wrong, though, the only mistake he made all night.

An amazing man is this Louis. He grows in

stature and in dignity with every performance. No one ever will forget the two chances he had to pole-axe the helpless Conn earlier in the bout. Billy the Kid slipped and his chin hung out invitingly, totally unprotected. The Brown Bomber had every right to hit him, but his inherent sense of decency and fairness is so deeply imbedded in his nature that he wouldn't take advantage of his opportunity. 6-21-46

It happened in their other fight, too, when the situation was different. Louis was losing on points then, but still he refused to strike a helpless foe. When you think that he's never thrown one low punch in his career, never transgressed any rule and never done anything low or underhand in a sport where skullduggery thrives, your admiration for him has to grow by leaps and bounds. Friday

He was calmer in victory than he'd have been had he shot a round of golf in the low 70's. His handlers leaped excitedly around the dressing room, jabbering in glee. The Dark Destroyer, patient and expressionless, posed endlessly for the cameramen and tirelessly answered reporters with clipped assurance. Seaman kept screaming: "Hey, fellers. Let him take his shower. D'ya want him to get pneumonia?" Joe didn't seem to care. When they finally shepherded him into the shower room, the photographers and writers followed him. "No pitchers, please," yowled one attendant. "He ain't got no clothes on." Darned if he did. New York, N.Y.

Someone shouted into the booth, asking what Joe planned for next year. He stuck out a soapy head and grinned shyly. "I dunno," he said. "Maybe I'll jump to the Mexican League. I hit pretty good, you know." 6-21-46

He does hit pretty good. Amen.

The Nation Sat 6-29-46

IF ANY OF YOU READERS ARE THE STUFFY sort who consider a prize fight no proper concern of America's Leading Liberal Weekly, you had better skip to the next editorial because in this one we intend to pass a few pertinent remarks about the Louis-Conn fracas up at Yankee Stadium last week. Being Louis fans from way back, and not having been among the unfortunates who shelled out an average of $40 apiece to witness a rather tepid exhibition of the manly art, we find ourselves in a position to express unqualified delight over the outcome. If ever there was a champion in any field of sport who deserved to retire undefeated, that one is Joe Louis. He not only has a pile-driving right that few boxers have ever equaled; he also has a record of sportsmanship that few professional athletes of any kind have ever equaled. The respect he has earned with his fists and the simple dignity with which he has carried it have done as much as anything in recent years to chip down a little further the walls of race prejudice. Probably the majority of the fans at Yankee Stadium were pulling for Billy Conn, the under-dog, the kid from Pittsburgh's East Liberty district who was shooting for the moon; but the ovation that same crowd gave Louis rang with sincerity, not partisanship. The line about Joe's being a credit to his race has become a tattered and patronizing cliché during his nine years as champion, but Jimmy Cannon, New York *Post* sports columnist, has switched a fresh meaning into it. "Louis is accepted as a symbol of decency in sport," Cannon wrote on the eve of the fight, "When I talked to him today I feel as I always do. That he is a credit to his race. Naturally, I mean the human race." 6-29-46 Thursday

ALL IN THE GAME
JACK TROY

Constitution

They Touched Gloves

It's a fact that Louis and Conn touched gloves at the beginning of the eighth round. This is a custom reserved for the start of the final round.

Don Dunphy, announcing the fight, wondered at the time if it were symbolic.

At least it was the beginning of the end of the title go in Yankee Stadium.

In 2:19 after they touched gloves, accidentally or on purpose, Conn was stretched out on the canvas for the count.

The movies bore out what many ringsiders missed—the episode of the touching of gloves. It has touched off a national controversy and caused Louis to comment that he didn't remember it. The movies are showing in New York. There was a private showing at RKO in Atlanta. Jun. 6-23-46

Writers giving blow-by-blow description didn't see gloves touch. None of the press services commented on it. Such things have happened before.

Personally, we don't see any significance to be attached to it. Why Louis didn't end it earlier is a mystery. He really took his time.

This corner picked Louis to win by a knockout in six rounds. Sports Editor Leo Petersen, of the United Press, thought at the time we were being charitable.

There were good reasons for picking Louis to win in the early rounds. Those who had an idea that Conn at 28 was a lot older athletically than Louis at 32 figured on an early end to the fight. Conn was never in any mood or the shape for fighting.

It strictly was an overmatch.

There was no resemblance to the Conn of five years before. There didn't seem to be a great deal of change in Louis, the champion. A faster opponent willing to mix it up might have changed the perspective.

One thing we do know—Mike Jacobs was smart in not allowing any fights leading up to the championship. This kept the public guessing and promoted the ticket sale. If Conn had fought a worthy opponent before he met Louis, no doubt there would have been general public apathy expressed for the championship affair.

Folks bought fancy-priced tickets with their eyes open and have no one to blame but themselves. But there should be some way for the public to be better protected.

Something To Talk About

We have an idea that those who listened in and read about the fight—also those who saw it via television—have caused more controversial talk than those from high and low stations of life who actually were on hand.

There is appeal and color at a great fight no matter how sorry it is. And a lot of people consider $100 cheap for the chance to be seen and publicized.

Out-of-town fans saved the fight financially. New Yorkers will crowd around an excavation and watch a steam shovel for hours. But they are cautious about things involving the expenditure of money on a gamble. Apparently the old followers weren't interested. They mixed reason with suspicion.

As a topic of conversation, there is nothing in current events that can touch the speculation over the merits of the first heavyweight title fight in four years.

It will go on and on and people will say it seems mighty funny to hear about so many gamblers having money on the fight to end by a knockout in the eighth round.

What the general public can be thankful for, in the final analysis, is that Louis didn't "loan" the title to Conn, as it had been rumored he would.

According To Plan

Jun. 6-23-46

The mighty Crackers closed out the final week of their long home stand according to plan.

On Monday President Earl Mann and Manager Ki Ki Cuyler went into a huddle in the front office.

"We've got to win five straight," Mann said.

"We'll do it," Cuyler answered.

And they did.

The best part of it was that the Crackers, in carrying out the battle plan, defeated second and third-place teams. Of the 10 games won on the 17-game home stand (one game was postponed), five of them were against Chattanooga and Nashville. Nothing could have been finer, for the big week extended the home nine's Southern League lead to nine games.

Only Little Rock, much improved in spite of the Pebbles' position in the standings, won a series from Atlanta at Ponce de Leon.

Maybe there were two factors. Little Rock and the law of averages. The Crackers had won 11 straight series. Little Rock stopped the streak and Birmingham managed to get an even break. Now the Cuylermen are back in stride, having started a new streak as they set out on a long and rugged road trip. Atlanta Ga.

"There are eight well-balanced ball clubs in the league at this time," Pres. Mann commented yesterday. "Mobile is coming and even Little Rock, on the bottom, is tough. I never saw the league so evenly balanced at this point. If the teams were starting over again from scratch, anything could happen. I think we have the best ball club but it's going to be a tough battle."

Nashville Manager Larry Gilbert still holds out for a five-team race. Gilbert has a team of left-handed hitters made to order for the bandbox home park. The Vols figure to be hard to handle in Sulphur Dell.

Jacobs Continues Plans for Bout, Louis vs. Mauriello

Times Dispatch, Richmond, Va. Sat. 6-22-46

New York, June 21.—(INS): Promoter Mike Jacobs went blithely ahead today with plans for a Joe Louis-Tami Mauriello heavyweight championship fight in the fall or winter.

But he nearly collapsed when advised that he had been invited to hold it at Atlantic City and again charge $100 for ringside seats.

Mayor Joseph Altman announced in Atlantic City that he had written Jacobs asking for a title fight at his resort city's Convention hall and suggesting that the price scale be from $100 down to $25.

Mike said he would "await arrival of the letter with interest," when told that Convention hall will seat 40,000 and hold $2,750,000 worth of customers.

But he kept a deep silence about the suggested $100 top. The $100 ringside charge at the Louis-Billy Conn bout Wednesday night has Mike in enough trouble already.

Most of the sniping at Uncle Mike came from Representative O'Toole, of New York. Jacobs had no more comment today on the attack by O'Toole, or on demands in Washington for an investigation of boxing and baseball. He said, however, that he wouldn't know about Louis' future activities until next week. The champion has said he would not fight again this year.

Conn Goes Home And Tells Folks He Didn't Quit

Courier Journal, Louisville, Ky.

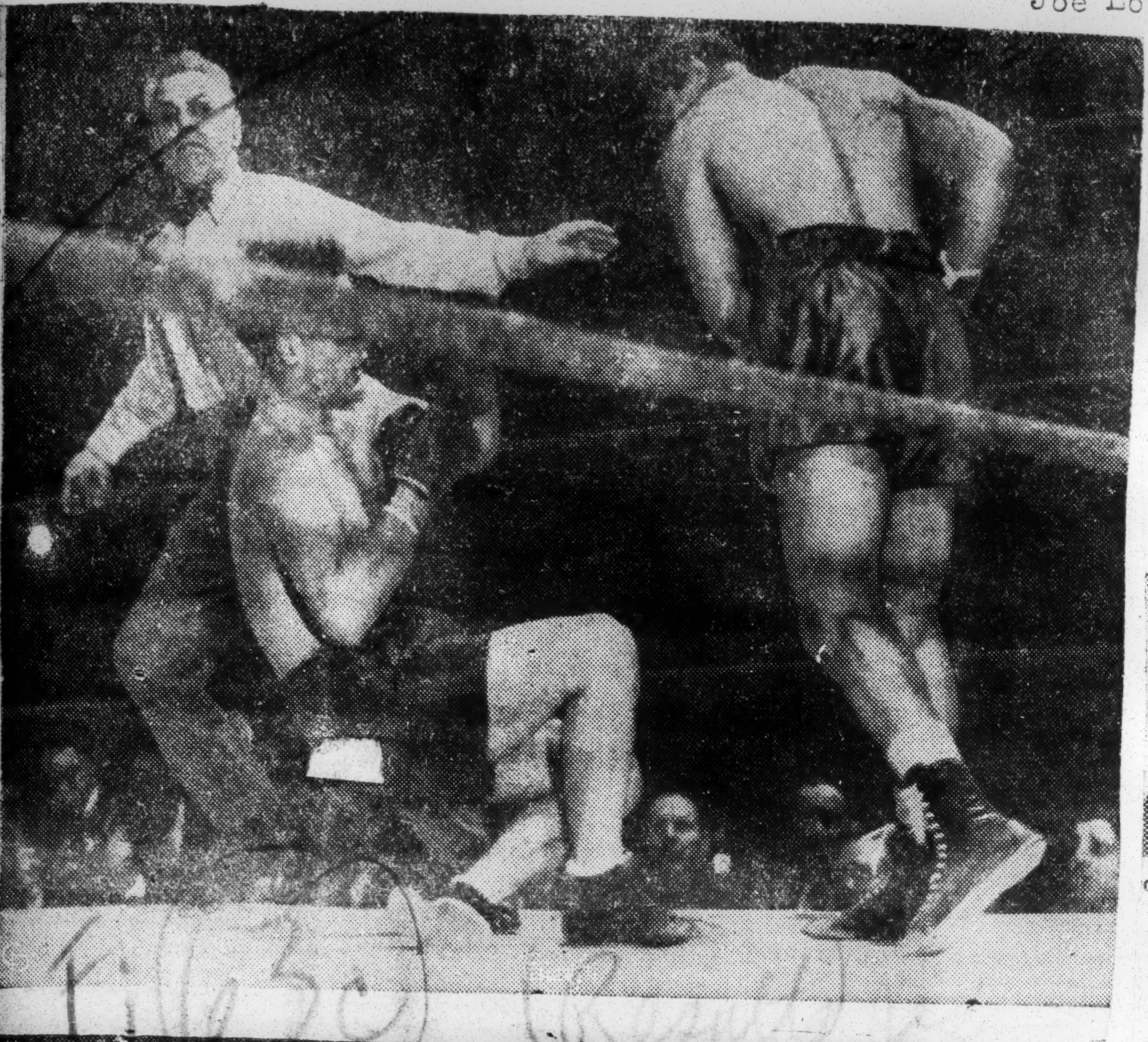
Pittsburgh, June 29 (AP)—A discouraged, doleful Billy Conn came home from his fistic war with Joe Louis today but his first words were, "Don't let anyone tell you I quit."

"I'm sorry I let everybody down," the 28-year-old challenger said.

"I thought I was doing all right as far as the fight had progressed. I knew there wasn't much action, but I knew that once I got started everything would be O.K. I had no idea that I would be belted out when the eighth round got started. Biff! Boom! Bang! and, it was all over." Monday 6-24-46

Home after a brief vacation at Ocean City, N. J., Billy protested, "I'd rather have had Joe murder me out there than what happened. I never quit to anybody in my life; never was afraid of any man living and my record will prove it. It makes me sick to read or hear that I was licked before I got into the ring with Louis. 6-21-46

"I was just following orders, a planned strategy which everyone thought would wear out Louis, but it didn't work."



championship contest at the Yankee Stadium, New York City. Referee Eddie Josephs directs Joe Louis to a neutral corner in the 8th round of his fight with Billy Conn after he had tagged the latter with a haymaker. The challenger lies flat on his back at the left. (International)

ALL IN THE GAME

JACK TROY

Constitution

Really No Contest NEW YORK, June 20—Among other things, there was absolutely nothing Billy Conn could do about the left hooks and jabs thrown at him by Joe Louis when the heavyweight champion shuffled through another successful defense of his title Wednesday night in Yankee Stadium. An eight-round knockout featured an otherwise drab championship fight.

Conn didn't have the same trouble keeping away from the lethal left in the first fight. He said, following the fight as he announced his retirement from the ring, that he couldn't recall Louis having so potent a left hand. He remembered the right.

The handsome challenger from Pittsburgh, known as Billy the Kid, apparently lost his fighting ability of old while in service. He appeared nervous at the start of the fight and his main desire seemed to be to avoid the range of the Louis punches. He wore himself down trying to tire his opponent.

Fri. 6-21-46

Many fight observers went away with the firm belief that Louis could have ended the fight in the first round as easily as he did in the eighth. He fought his own fight and maneuvered Conn into corners as if he had the power of a hypnotist. Conn had been wary of such tactics before. But this time he appeared rattled and several times made amateurish bobbing motions with his hands.

This reminded Bob Brumby, the Marietta boy who is now doing a sports radio show on Broadway, of the Louis-Nova fight. Nova sort of waved his gloves at Louis as he adopted the dynamic stance and Louis, for the first time in his ring career, backed off and laughed.

"Boy, you's too big to jitterbug," he told Nova.

Just a Breeze In flooring Conn, Louis also exploded pre-fight theories that he had trained badly and was not in good shape. He appeared to experts who had watched him throughout most of his career to be as fast afoot and as sharp as ever in his timing. And he carried atomic energy in his right and left-hand punches, it was suggested.

The proceeds were short of $2,000,000 as the crowd fell below 50,000, but it was still a New York record. Seating arrangements were not good. Many customers who spent as much as $100 for mezzanine seats could not see too well because of fans in front of them.

Atlanta Georgia

Flocks of cheaper seats in the far-away tiers were empty. The ring was pitched over second base in Yankee Stadium and thus was out of range of many eyes peering through cheap binoculars.

It's really amazing that as many as 45,000 were on hand in view of prices and seating arrangements.

As fights go, Louis admitted it was one of the easiest he had ever had.

And yet it's still a fact that, in addition to Jacobs' stooges, there were about 25 writers who picked Conn to win. Some of them even predicted victory by a knockout. Actually, Conn displayed no punch at all and very little of anything else, except the good sense to quit the ring.

Conn, at times, acted like an amateur. Perhaps part of his nervousness was due to the psychology of facing Louis in a second fight. Louis has been invincible up to now.

Fri. 6-21-46

He was asked if it actually weren't his easiest fight.

"Well, I once fought a fellow named Kingfish Levinsky," the Brown Bomber responded.

Louis was pleased that he also was able, in the second fight with Conn, to outbox the Pittsburgh heavyweight. He had everything his own way from the start and seemed mindful of radio, television and movies in taking his time against a jittery opponent.

Jacobs Attacked In addition to Conn's retirement, one writer, Jimmy Powers, of the Daily News, suggested that Promoter Mike Jacobs should follow him.

"Conn should retire. He is through. We also suggest Promoter Mike Jacobs retire. Mike has lost the common touch. Boxing can be made into a popular sport with tickets priced within reason. It will mean less profits for the promoter and boxers, but it will stimulate attendance, tap lower-income levels and spread enthusiasm for the sport. Mike's

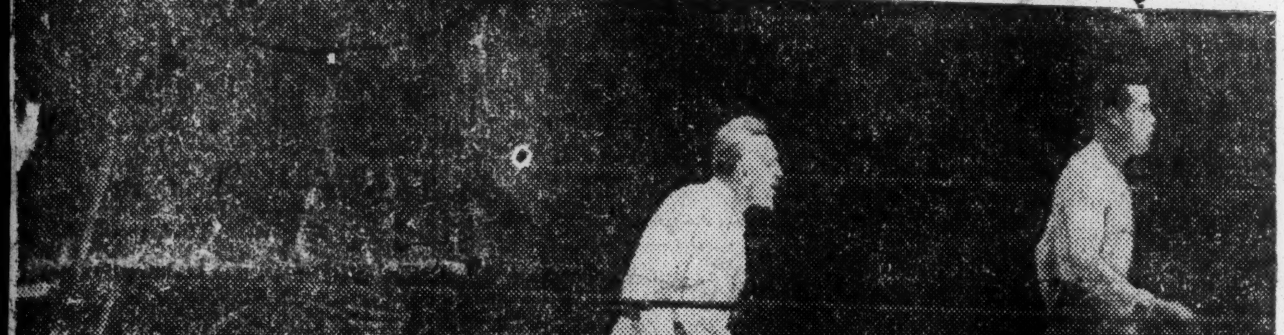
more money by 'loaning' the title to Conn or racing through to a 'close win.' Joe didn't—and more power to him," Powers wrote.

Dan Parker, of the Mirror, long has been in favor of Jacobs' retirement.

Atlanta Ga

Parker wrote that the only chance Conn ever had in Wednesday night's fight was that which was conceded him under orders by Jacobs' Twentieth Century Sporting Club's publicity staff.

The extent of the ballyhoo about Conn's bravado was starkly revealed in the actual fight. The lengths to which Conn had gone back were carefully concealed until the money was in the till.



6-19-46 Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

AS LOUIS BATTERED CONN TO OBLIVION IN 8TH — Heavyweight Champ "Joe" Louis' left Challenger Billy Conn's knees lands with devasting effect and buckle beneath him. He's halfway to the canvas as the Brown Bomber follows through his lethal blow. The time—2 minutes and 19 seconds of the eighth round in the

blighting hand has ruined the sport and left darkened arenas.

"We also wish to salute Joe Louis. Joe is a credit to his race. The rumors of a 'loan' of his title never registered with us and we refused to honor these stories in print. We have always had the greatest confidence in Joe's integrity. He could have made

In this Corner

Daily Worker New York N.Y. Sat. 6-22-46

Some 2nd-Day Comment On the Fite

By Bill Mardo

Putting one little Williams after another, and whattaya know, Joe?

The World-Telly's junior Pegler is having a miserable time with himself these days, trying to explain off his pre-fight prediction which had Conn the winner, "maybe by a kayo."

After Louis laid out Billy for dead, brother Williams presented a rather ludicrous picture by glibly explaining (it was supposed to be in a satirical vein) that somebody had foisted a grave misapprehension upon the public. Billy Conn was trying to win the Arthur Murray dance championship, not the heavyweight crown, said Joseph Williams. Oh it was intended to be so funny, that column of the "Old Colonel's," but nobody was laughing. Except at Williams.

So what do you think the venomous scribe did yesterday? Knowing he looked like a damn fool in his post-bout column, he tried again with a follow-up. Only this time he switched to a new tack, and one that's wholly compatible with the man who was the last columnist in the land to finally, and begrudgingly, agree that Joe Louis is a great fighter. Yesterday, Joe Williams' article ran under a headline which said: "Conn's Dreary Showing Made Louis Look Good." The column itself ran on ad nauseaum.

If Williams had even a grain of honesty in his makeup he would've given due credit to the champion by printing the following caption above his column: "Louis' Good Showing Made Williams' Dreary Column Drearier."

New York N.Y. Daily Worker

And incidentally, whatever happened to those phony drum-beaters who had Joe Louis looking like a washed-up relic in training, and Conn the closest thing to a giant-killer that this generation has ever seen?

The wisdom of the champ's training program, which this page constantly pointed out, certainly paid off handsomely in the fight. Sharpening up his defensive armor rather than mutilate his sparmates for the benefit of the press, was typical of the intelligent and scientific way in which Joe Louis conditions himself. The great champion wasn't out to convince anyone at this late stage of the game that he's an amazing puncher. And certainly Joe wasn't going to waste any of his precious training time to convince himself of his prowess. So he just methodically went in, day after day, ordering his helpers to toss lefts at him, and as time went on you could see Joe warding off those blows with increasing skill.

So scientifically did Louis pace himself at Pompton Lakes that by the time he stepped into the Yankee Stadium ring three nights ago, Billy didn't have a chance with his famed jabber. Joe just picked those punches off in mid-air, and that, as much as any factor, accounted for the complete Conn demoralization which set in after the second stanza. When all a guy has is a left hand, and he can't score with it, brother, what's there to do? When you see the fight pictures try counting how many left hands were landed by Billy during the entire bout. I didn't keep too accurate a count while at the fight, but I'm willing to wager there were no more than six lefts which found their mark on Louis all night.

Of course, one of the most beautiful things to watch was Joe thoroughly out-jabbing the man who was supposed to be the finest boxer in the business today. Something which has always been underestimated or acknowledged in lukewarm fashion, is Joe Louis' very real finesse as a master boxer in his own right. The economy of motion, the picking-off of punches with barely a flick of his glove, the imperceptible manner in which he feints a man into an opening, the way he moves his legs around—nothing flashy but always set in support of his hitting barrage—all these traits are the mark of a highly skilled boxer, which Loe Louis is in every sense of the word.

Saturday 6-22-46

The actual fight strategy mapped out by Louis and trainer Manny Seamon was a classic of double-cross. Conn and most everyone else expected Joe to come out punching at the bell, try to immediately trap Billy on the ropes and throw the book at him. . . . But knowing the Conn board of strategy expected such tactics, Louis and Seamon decided they'd cross 'em up by boxing with Billy, muffling his left hand and getting him panicky with the realization that there wasn't a thing he could do but run. Which is what Conn did, the net result being he ran himself bowlegged and was all pooped out in the eighth whereas Louis was just beginning to feel good.

I'm Telling You...

Before discussing the more questionable sides of the Louis-Conn affair, it might be appropriate to draw a few apt comparisons. Professional boxers, as you know, are pale parodies of professional soldiers. War, as this generation sadly realizes, is a curious mixture of heroism and murder. Pugilism was best described by the late Bill McGeehan as "The Manly Art of Modified Murder."

Oddly enough, both of these filthy rackets have produced some amazingly fine men. Soldiers have their Washington; pugs their Louis. Joe Louis is the most respected athlete—amateur or professional—in America today. It is no fault of his if the greed that permeates his profession sometimes seems to form a film that obscures his own honesty. This is mentioned because of what is to follow.

P.M. New York

As you know, Billy Conn's training camp, at Greenwood Lake, N. J., was light-heartedly described by the press as "a madhouse." Teddy Gleason's hotel, where Conn boxed his partners, is a roadhouse featuring the customary refreshments, convenient cabins, music, shuffleboard, etc.

Friday 6-20-46

During the tenure of the fight mob, some of the camp followers engaged in high-powered card games. This was not unnatural. Milton Jaffe, for instance, half of Conn's managerial team—the other is Johnny Ray—is well known in Pittsburgh for his interests in Lady Luck.

Characters very close to Conn were seen "ostensibly" wagering thousands of dollars on the turn of a card. The atmosphere was one of easy-come, easy-go. There were all kinds of rumors about the thousands of dollars these fellows had bet or were going to wager on the Smoky City's shining knight.

This department was assured, by a source in which it has every confidence, that some of these characters did not bet a dime on Conn. Moreover, many of their pasteboard duels were in truth play acting in which the money that changed hands during "quick loans," actually was returned to its original bankers.

Apparently all this "atmosphere" was created to give an impression that there was not enough money in Manhattan to combat the Pittsburghers who were behind Conn.

P.M. New York N.Y.

Conn's big-time gambling friends were "behind him" all right, way, way behind him. The implication here is that few close to Conn had the slightest idea he could beat Louis. And PM's informant alleges that some "Conn men" actually bet on Louis shortly before ringtime, when the price soared to 16 to 5 on the champion.

This much is certain. Conn's actions in the ring, if not a tribute to these gentlemen's alleged faith in his prowess, at least confirmed their betting judgment. Billy fought like a Black Market edition of Lou Nova, the Yogi horror.

* * *

There is another innocent idea abroad that Billy regards money lightly, viewing it as "cabbage" made to spend. This is pure, unadulterated chutney. Willie doesn't despise dough any more than does Uncle Mike Jacobs. From the way he fought, it is a fair guess that Billy entered the ring Wednesday night with no loftier hope than to pick up a fat salary check. He waited eight rounds before facing the inevitable. But then nobody likes to rush a chop on the chin. His performance might indicate that Conn was convinced he was going to lose, for he didn't seem to "try." All he did was run. And around town he was telling friends yesterday, "I was almost ashamed to take my money."

Oh, well . . .

6-20-46

Incidentally, the gate receipts proved that the world's sporting press was more excited about viewing this affair than anybody else. The Battle of the Black Market place attracted, in the main, confessed hundred dollar chumps. It is curious then to report that the press received a terrific pushing around for its pains.

Some of the greatest reporters in this nation saw the fight by peering over the editorial heads of such renowned "working" journalists as Toots Shor, of the Saloon Sun; James J. Walker, of the Tin Box Tribune; Robert Hannegan, of the Missouri Mule Bray; Frank Hague, of the Jersey Law Review; and Milton Berle, of the Jerks' Intelligencer.

Obviously the New York Boxing Writers' Assn., is either in Mike Jacobs' hip pocket or gutless as a stage piano. Before the next Jacobs pug production, this Association either should do something about the "working" press accommodations or give itself up and allow a financial reporter to estimate the amount of tax lost by the Federal Government due to the appearance of these dead-heads in the "working" press section.

—SWIFTY

The Sportview

Time-Dispatch Richmond Va Sat 6-22-46

By Chauncey Durden

Beating Around The Flatbush

Uncle Mike Can Take It

MOST of the talk in the big town today was about Representative Daniel O'Toole's popping off in Washington about Wednesday night's fight, or what had been billed as a fight. It was to have been a $100 fight, remember?

Sat 6-22-46

The consensus of the bright fellows here is that the battle of words between Promoter Mike Jacobs and Representative O'Toole was a much better fight than the one Billy Conn failed to make against the heavyweight champion. It was also agreed that Uncle Mike's thick hide would never be pierced by mere words—and they might include many names—uttered by O'Toole. Uncle Mike has been called many things, all of them of late unpleasant ones, without batting an eye. Fearless Dan Parker put it this way in his Daily Mirror column: "Cong. O'Toole, in announcing he'd sue for libel (Ed. Note: After Jacobs had said the congressman had tried to put the bite on him for complimentary tickets), called Mike a liar, which, in view of some of the other things the promoter was being called all around town, was tantamount to a glowing compliment."

It seems to us that the persons who are doing the least squawking about Louis' knockout of Conn are the ones who paid $100 for seats, some of those seats a good brassie shot from the ring. Most of the $100 donators to Jacobs' fund for Jacobs knew they were suckers upon planking down their C-notes. Or at least suspected as much. Wednesday night confirmed those suspicions, but the suckers aren't hollering overly loud or long.

Time Dispatch

Give a sucker plenty of money and he finds much fun in being had by the con(n) men.

Richmond Va.

Louis Knocks Out Billy Conn in 8th

By SID FEDER

Yankee Stadium, New York, June 19.—(AP): The punch that has made Joe Louis the greatest fighter of his time offset the years the mighty brown bomber has been away from his fistic trade tonight and left his crown as king of the ring still perched on his head in the most talked of sports event in history.

Putting his championship on the line for the 22nd time since he tore it off the head of ancient Jim Braddock, the tan terror of the fight world overcame the strongest challenge in his eight year reign by knocking out game, but outpunched Billy Conn in the eighth round of their return match, just as did it five years ago in the 13th.

A vast crowd of some 65,000—below the hoped-for estimate of a packed house in this huge ball yard—roared in cheers as the brown bomber flashed his old-time dynamite for one brief instant to land four fierce, vicious blows and wipe out the htreat that has been hanging over him for five years.

It was just five years ago yesterday, that the Pittsburgh pretty boy piled up a wide point margin through 12 rounds then made the fatal mistake of trying to slug it out with Joe, and wound up the way just about all of them do with the blasting bomber.

Stalked Conn As Sniper

For five years, Joe has waited for a chance to know he could have done it anyway. For five years, Billy has waited for another shot—sure that he could do it on boxing skill alone over the 15 round route. And for five years the fight faithful not only of this country, but the whole world, wondered and waited.

Tonight they got the answer. After seven rounds in which Louis stalked his rival, as an infantry snipe hunter stalks its prey in wartime. The action was slow, as Joe inched forward and Billy circled out of the danger from the cans of ether Joe carries in his glove.

Mostly it was just left handed pecking, with a few jabs and a few hooks and a rare—very rare—right hand attempt.

Then, midway of the eighth, Louis maneuvered his man into position. He laced out with a long lashing left that straightened Billy up on his heels. The handsome challenger from Smokytown was wide open. In a flash, Louis was in. His right ripped over twice like a pile driver pounding a pole into the mud. Billy started to come down, slowly, like a building falling apart after a shell hits it.

Murderous Left

Then came a slashing, murderous left—and it was over. The Pittsburgh pretty boy hit the gleaming canvas in the center of this spacious Bronx ball park. He lay there flat on his back, his arms outstretched and Referee Eddie Joseph—the same man who counted him out just five years ago yesterday in the Polo grounds, across the Harlem river—counted the same full ten. Billy had barely stirred when he finished. He could have counted another ten. At two minutes, 19 seconds of the eighth the roof fell in.

For Billy it was for keeps. Immediately afterward in his dressing room, he admitted it.

"This was my last fight," he said "I'm through. I just haven't got it."

For Louis it was the last fight at least until 1947. He had planned to try another one in September, but there is no challenger left ready to try trading anything but golf shots with him—and there are few of those, inasumch as he's down in the low 70's now.

What's more, his income tax from his estimated "cut" of some $675,000 from the gate of about $2,250,000 for this fight puts him well into the upper brackets, with no financial point in plying his trade again this year. Louis' "end" figured to be about $337,500.

Found Conn Slower

In his dressing room, he was the same calm, quiet-speaking Louis who came out of the Alabama cotton fields by way of Detroit and soared up the trail to a spot not only as the greatest fistic destroyer of his generation, but one of the best-liked ever to put on a pair of gloves.

"I finished him with a right cross, a right upper-cut and a elft hook," he explained, in reply to a question.

"Conn was slower than the last time," he added. "I told Manny (Trainer Manny Seamon) just before the eighth round that I was going to fight him this round just to see what he'd do."

Someone asked then if it was his easiest fight. "Seems to me," he tossed off, "I remember a guy named Levinsky." This was King Levinsky of Chicago who barely waited to be hit before admitting the Bomber was the better man some years back.

Thus ended the most ballyhooed and anticipated classic that ring history has ever known, and once more the ancient jinx of a New York ball park—that a challenger has never won a title in one of them—held good.

Louis Scales 207, Conn 182

Joe Louis scaled 207 pounds and Billy Conn tipped the beams at 182 yesterday at the weigh-in ceremonies at Madison Square Garden, 10 hours before both men met at Yankee Stadium last night in Big Fight for heavyweight championship honors. Louis thus had a 25-pound pull over the challenger from Pittsburgh.

Joe's 207 was exactly seven and one-half pounds more than he weighed for his first meeting with Conn in 1941; while Billy the Kid was eight pounds heavier than the 174 he scaled for that memorable first bout.

The weighing-in ceremony was staged in an un-roped ring in the center of Madison Square Garden's arena, while more than 2,000 fans crowded 49 St. outside of the Garden, awaiting glimpses of the champion and the challenger.

This edition of the paper went to bed too early for results of last night's Louis-Conn clash. The second edition will carry fuller details.

And don't miss Friday's Daily Worker for its unique three-man coverage of the fight. Bill Mardo, sports editor, will come in with his account and analysis of how it went; Lester Rodney will compare it to the first fight five years ago, and feature writer Michael Singer will report the color, drama and highlights.

Chairman Eddie Egan of the New York Boxing Commission personally weighed in both fighters.

The ceremony was held before the largest battery of camera men, movie men and sports writers ever to cover such an event. It was estimated that more than 400 were present in the arena.

Louis, who arrived by automobile from his training camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J., at 12:15 p.m., was the first to step on the scales. He climbed up to the ring wearing a white, turkish bathrobe and purple trunks. Conn, who has been staying in New York at the home of a friend, checked in at the Garden at 12:10 p.m. He followed the champion into the ring, wearing only the coat to his grey, civilian suit and purple trunks.

Louis went about the procedure soberly as he weighed in for his 22nd defense of the heavyweight title which he wrested from Jim Braddock in 1937. Braddock was among the spectators who watched Joe weigh in.

Conn watched closely as the commission doctor worked over Louis. When the doctor asked Louis to jog in place so they could judge his pulse and heart beat, Conn stood with folded arms and looking up, winked at his manager, Johnny Ray.

There were about60 photographers crowded around the ring as Louis was being examined and they kept shouting at Ray to move out of their range.

Making the physical examination were Drs. William H. Walker and Vincent Nardiello, commission physicians.

As they examined Louis first, th photographers swarmed about them and one of them asked Dr. Walker to move aside so he could get a picture of the champion.

"Here, you make the examination," Walker said heatedly.

Egan stepped in hurriedly and placated the irate doctor.

Change the World

By Mike Gold

PROFESSOR KNOWALL, famous head of the department of Whyology and Pulpification at Big Shot University, has come to New York for a well-earned vacation from thinking.

I caught him analyzing a Spam sandwich and a glass of beer in the famous resort of the Murphy Brothers on Third Avenue, where he has his meals, does his fighting, bathes his tonsils in soothing blonde beer, and otherwise relaxes in New York, "this grandest of all summer resorts! hooroo!"

"So what did you think of the Joe Louis fight, Professor?" I asked.

"Wonderful!" he answered, with the naive enthusiasm of an old scholar and beer-hister.

"Joe and Billy came out of the affair with honor. They tried to sock each other as often and as honestly as well-paid professionals should be doing when faced with each other in a prize ring before a two-million dollar gate.

"Mr. Louis, especially, won fresh laurels for his moral dignity, good sportsmanship and general demeanor. He is a great man. I am glad he retained the championship; he has always brought it honor. Yes, the fight was a great political victory, proving that the Negro people have more brains, more strength, more courage and human dignity than Mike Jacobs and most of the press writers, ticket speculators and other millionaires of New York."

"WERE you present at the fight, or did you hear it over the radio, Professor?"

"Present for $100 a seat? What, am I some soulless black marketeer with pants stuffed full of dirty money? No, indeed, I stayed around the radio here in the Murphy resort.

"What I wish to say is that commercialism if unchecked will ever destroy itself. Mike Jacobs staged the show, he owned the fighters, he speculated in his own tickets, he traded in the television and radio rights. Also, he must have had cast a hypnotic charm on the sports writers, or maybe he buys them beer and presents, perhaps. They were so good to him, like an old wife. When he needed to attract more customers for the $100 seats, they wrote exciting stories for Mike—like the one that came from Joe's training camp.

"The sports writers shook their heads over poor Joe, remember? They said he was getting fat, slow, near-sighted and old. Remember that yarn about Joe's high blood pressure? It was like the economic report of some NAM expert on the OPA. Just simply not true. But it killed the OPA—I mean it sold another flock of fight tickets."

"What do you think of OPA, Professor?"

The old savant snorted and spat into a nearby spittoon.

"Mark my words, Mike Jacobs will kill the fight industry, in which people still believe. These hogs steal the bread out of the mouth of the workers' babes! They will live to regret their eagerness to get all the money in the world under a single roof. Mike is slaughtering geese which have laid him many golden eggs. And his buddies of the NAM may be tramping the street some cold winter dawn, carrying the banner, while a merciless socialist snow falls on their heads. And where will I be, but standing by to cheer and cheer?"

* * *

IT WAS TIME to put the interview on a calmer and more objective basis. I swallowed some beer and asked:

"Professor, what do you think of the Palestinian situation?"

"What is there to think? The Jews will win. They have at last learned the lesson taught by James Connolly and Padraic Pearse in Easter Week: viz, put no trust in a British imperialist.

"Most of the British still love their empire and its grand old traditions of village-bombing, hostage-killing, martial-law-marauding, super-profiteering and

the rest of it. They are backing up their Ernest Bevin, that grand old alleged socialist, yet might never conquered right. Joe Louis has the strong fist, but his heart is also pure. He is fighting for a cause, and he wins over the commercial and the impure. Remember how he beat Schmeling? The Jews will also defeat all these pulpy, boastful, Bevins of the rotten old robbers' empire. Tell your readers that."

"Are you in favor of destroying the atomic weapon, as Russia proposes, or using it to make the world safe for democracy, as Hearst and Rankin propose?"

"We spent two billion dollars on this bomb. Taxpayers' money, too. Nevertheless, in my opinion, Life is bigger than Money.

"If we wipe Russia off the map, then somebody is sure to wipe us off the map. So the two billion would be wasted, anyway. If we must fight, let it be with gentle makebelieve weapons, like tanks and machine guns, not atomic bombs. At least, America will survive."

Topics of The Times

Tass in the Stadium?

The Tass correspondent in New York covered the Louis-Conn fight for the Soviet press, and his story has been reported back to this country, the item has failed to come under our notice. Normally the official Soviet news agency would have no interest in prizefights. The emphasis which Anglo-American newspapers lay on sports would no doubt be one of the examples which Soviet critics have in mind of the essentially frivolous and trivial character of the press in the English-speaking world; frivolous and trivial, that is, when our newspapers are not actually enemies of the working class and a menace to world peace.

When Gromykko Smiled

But this time, in the Yankee Stadium, it may have been different. Mr. Gromyko was present in a $100 seat as one of Mr. Baruch's guests, and Tass may have thought it worth while to let the Soviet people know that their doughty champion on the U. N. Security Council had his softer side when the occasion demanded. Tass may have wanted to remind the world that when basic principles are not involved the Russians of today have not lost the old native gift for relaxation. Handsome young Mr. Gromyko's boyish grin as he watched the Louis-Conn proceedings from his place at Mr. Baruch's left hand was a striking contrast, to put it mildly, to the dour veto and nothing-to-say look which he has so often brought to his U. N. duties.

Callous Bourgeois Playboys

Once the Soviet correspondent had decided that the championship fight justified a brief dispatch to Moscow, you can see how immediately other considerations bobbed up to make that dispatch much longer than originally intended. Having duly explained Mr. Gromyko's presence in the Yankee Stadium as a simple act of courtesy to his American hosts, if not indeed as an item in protocol, the Tass writer would be free to comment on the fact that twelve thousand persons paid $100 apiece to see a prizefight at the very time when all over the United States workers were striking for adequate wages to meet the soaring cost of living. The spectators at the fight paid in nearly two million dollars. The winner received something like $625,000. The loser received more than $300,000. And while the Tass reporter was on the subject of the tremendous prizes which the capitalist system offers to its favored few he might have harked back to that other list of American salaries, of $200,000 and over, published the other day by the income tax people in Washington; if, in fact, the Soviet correspondent had not already covered the subject in an earlier dispatch.

High Income Taxes

Some things the Tass writer may have omitted. Recalling how the Soviet Union is proud of its nationalities policy and its freedom from race discrimination, one wonders how much stress the reporter laid on the fact that Joe Louis is a Negro and enormously popular with the American public. Or, going back to finances, did he mention the fact that out of Louis' winnings of $625,000 the Federal income tax would take more than $400,000? The top man in the aforementioned income-tax report drew more than a million dollars, but it was estimated that income taxes would take perhaps $900,000. Our biggest annual earnings are regularly found in the motion picture business, which would be a parallel to Soviet Russia.

That Vicarious Peril

One comment on the Louis-Conn fight we are quite sure the Tass correspondent did not put into his dispatch, just as he would have been certain to include it a decade or so ago. He did not stress the fact that the 45,000 persons who came to watch the two gladiators were only one example of the vicarious enjoyment which the American people mistake for real play; like the huge throngs which fill the baseball parks and football stadiums in the course of a season.

Arithmetic Was Faulty

It is many years since we have heard complaint about vicarious play in America and it is not likely that we shall hear much about in the future. The subject has been exhausted. The statistics on which the indictment was based turned out to be sadly incomplete. If it was true that nearly twenty million Americans annually watched the football and baseball games vicariously, it was overlooked that a great many more people actively played tennis and golf, sailed a quarter of a million motor-boats, swam in several thousand public and private swimming pools, paid for more than seven million hunting and fishing licenses, and disported themselves on two hundred municipal beaches to the number of forty million non-vicarious individuals.

Last Fight, Says Billy In Defeat

By JACK TROY,
Constitution Sports Editor.

YANKEE STADIUM, N. Y.—June 20—Joe Louis, still the Brown Bomber, was too sharp for the old Conn game and successfully defended his world's heavyweight championship by knocking out the Pittsburgh challenger in the eighth round last night.

Billy Conn apparently tried to wear out the legs of the 32-year-old Louis, but it was a game at which two could play. Louis, the aggressor throughout, ended the fight suddenly in 2:19 of the eighth round, landing with smashing rights and lefts to Conn's head. A left hook sent Conn to the canvas for the count. Conn staggered up after he had been counted out and Referee Eddie Joseph, who was the third man in the first fight, stood between him and the still world's champion.

There was a paid attendance of 45,266 and the gross failed to reach two million dollars. The gross was $1,925,564. Actually it wasn't too much of a fight for the price demanded for ringside and mezzanine seats.

FIVE YEARS AGO

It was just five years and a day after they first met that Louis, who never failed to dispose of an opponent in a return fight, knocked Conn out for the second time. Conn did better in the first fight. He had a lead on points going into the thirteenth round. Louis hurt Conn, who lost his head and left himself wide open for the lethal Louis left.

It was the opportunity Louis had been waiting for and Conn went down for the count.

It wasn't until the fourth round tonight that Louis began to pepper Conn with telling blows. Louis landed with left hooks and jabs and apparently had hurt Conn more than he realized. The action had been rather slow up to that point. The crowd once began clapping for action.

Louis bided his time. The champion hurt Conn with a hard right to the head in the fifth. In the sixth the action slowed again. Conn danced and Louis parried Conn's blows. Actually Conn never seemed to land one harmful blow in the entire time the fight lasted.

DULL ROUND

In round seven tonight, there was not more than enough action by either party to call it more than even. It was that kind of a fight.

Louis, who had predicted he would win, maneuvered Conn into a corner. He drew first blood with a right-hand smash. Conn's left eye was bleeding. Then the finish came with dramatic suddenness.

That pole-axe right was followed by a stunning left hook and Louis had successfully defended his championship for the twenty-second time in his career.

Conn announced from his dressing room that it was his last fight. "They're not going to kill me. I'm serious. I just don't have it anymore," Conn said.

Louis appearing none the worst for a four-year layoff from ring competition, became the fourth heavyweight in boxing history to retain his championship past the age of 30. The others were John L. Sullivan, Jack Johnson and Bob Fitzsimmons.

SAME OLD JOE

If Louis, at 32, has gone back, the crowd couldn't tell it. He might have ended the fight sooner if Conn hadn't shown a tendency to keep away from him. Louis had said before the fight that Conn might run away but he couldn't hide.

Louis, fighting for the first time without Jack Blackburn in his corner, definitely destroyed any thought that his plan of action was thought out for him. He followed a very methodical plan to upset the old Conn game. Billy the Kid just didn't have it and proved extremely wise in announcing his plans to hang up the gloves for good. Conn fought at 182 pounds and Louis at 207.

Louis has often proved he can end a fight in one punch. He may be slipping a little, at that, for he used two to finish off Conn.

Joe All Alone As Fisticuff's Crown Prince

BY GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK, June 21—(AP)—Never before in the nine years since he won the heavyweight championship has Joe Louis stood out over the world's fighting men to the extent he does today.

When the big, amber-colored Negro knocked out Billy Conn with such convincing ease Wednesday night he just about fought himself out of prospective challengers for his title. He finds himself out on a high plateau, all by himself.

Probably not since Jim Jeffries retired for lack of opposition has the field been so barren of contenders, men whom Promoter Mike Jacobs might hope to pit against Louis in a big outdoor fight. It would be difficult to guess when Joe will fight again.

Tami Mauriello, a blubbery Bronx heavyweight who recently beat Britain's novice champion, Bruce Woodcock, and Joe Walcott, Camden, N. J., Negro who recently defeated Jimmy Bivins and Lee Oma, are about the only scrappers anyone can think of who might just possibly give Louis a few busy rounds at this time, and that is not an intriguing prospect.

Nat Rogers, Jacob's matchmaker, admitted yesterday while the fight post mortems were being held in Mike's plush offices that it might be a year before some youngster would emerge from the nation's gymnasiums and small fight clubs and catch the public's fancy.

An outside possibilities in this category he named Jack Cranford, of Washington, D. C.; Jimmy Evans, of Brooklyn, and Omelia Agramonte, of Puerto Rico. He also mentioned Tommy Gomez, the pride of Tampa, Fla., and said that maybe Woodcock would develop into something much better with more experience on this side of the water. But at no time did not sound enthusiastic.

It simply is that Louis is a truly great fighter, one of the outstanding athletic champions of all time, in any sport, and that it would be amazing if there chanced to come along at the same time a boxer of equal ability. Conn, at least, was frank enough to admit after the second go-round that he did not belong in the same ring with Joe aind to announce his retirement from the game though he still in all probability is the second best fighter in the world today.

Tunney Sees Fight, Calls It 'Malodorous'

NEW ORLEANS, June 21—(AP)—To former heavyweight champion Gene Tunney the Joe Louis-Billy Conn fight was "malodorous."

Stopping off here en route from New York to Mexico, Tunney said he never rated Conn a contender and that he was prepared to wager $25,000 that the challenger would be ducksoup for either Welterweight Ray Robinson or Middleweight Rocky Graziano.

"He (Conn) should never have been pitted against Louis," Tunney said. "For months I've preached that the only way to select a challenger is by an elimination tournament, and this fiasco proves my point."

Tunney saw the bout by television and said that "was close enough proximity for me."

Louis Winds Up With Check For $625,916 After Putting Conn to Canvas in Scrap

KO'd Challenger Receives Just Half as Much Money—Plus Abrasions.

By SID FEDER

NEW YORK, June 20. (AP)—Bomber Joe Louis, still king of the ring after 22 heavyweight championship defenses, had a check for $625,916.44 waiting at Promoter Mike Jacobs' office today for knocking Billy Conn into retirement—but Bomber Joe went out to play golf instead of picking it up.

Billy wound up with just half as much money—$312,958.22—plus such assorted abrasions as a cut across the bridge of his nose and bruises under both eyes for having the roof caved in on him in the eighth round of last night's fuss at Yankee Stadium, after seven sloppy sessions that should have been accompanied by waltz music.

Billy picked up his check during the afternoon and confirmed his retirement plans, despite Jacobs' suggestion that he change his mind. He then packed and left for a rest at Ocean City, N. J., with Mrs. Billy, who did not see the fight.

The fight mob, meantime, cut the battle to bits and agreed: (a) That this was the last heavyweight title bout in a long time, not only because Joe plans to rest until next year, but also simply because there's no outstanding swatter left for him to fight;

(b) That Billy fought the Bomber directly opposite to the style he found so successful in facing Joe in their 1941 fight, and (c) that no one who gives Louis a clear shot at him is going to beat the Bomber.

There was considerable hilarity, too, along Bash Boulevard over the contention of Representative O'Toole (D-NY) in Washington that the fight last night was a "stinkeroo" and should be investigated. Promoter Jacobs shrugged it off with the statement that O'Toole's office called him before the fight "and wanted complimentary tickets and I refused—so now comes the hollering."

To O'Toole's declaration that such things as the preparations for the fight, the agreements between Jacobs and two thumpers, the splitting of the purses and the "existence" of debts Billy and Joe owe Mike should be looked into, the older Boulevardiers merely pointed out that two guys got into a ring and fought it out and the best one won. As for the debts, these same older hands argued, when a fellow needs cash, he borrows it from someone who has it.

There were some followers of the gentle art of mashing noses who claimed last night's taffy pull was a financial "flop" because it didn't draw the $3,000,000 Jacobs originally anticipated. It was pointed out for them, however, that the $1,925,564 gross gate was the second largest in fistic history.

What's more, the 45,266 customers who pranced into Yankee Stadium last night paid considerably more than the 120,757 who chipped in to a pot of $1,895,733 to see Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney in their first fight in Philadelphia, hitherto the second largest financial lure in fistic history.

The net gate was $1,514,791.11 to which was added $50,000 for radio and television rights. Of this Joe got 40 per cent and Billy 20. They also will slice the same percentage from the motion picture money, which can not be estimated yet until distribution reports are in.

Conn had only admiration for Joe as "a great puncher who can knock your head off."

"I just didn't have my zing," he explained. "I had planned to make Joe run through the first eight rounds, then go to work on him in the ninth, figuring he'd be tired. But after that one right I hit him in the second round, I couldn't get started. Then he caught me first."

He disclosed what he whispered to Joe on two occasions in the ring last night, when they were at close quarters. In the first round, he had said something, and Louis half-grinned at it.

"What I said, "Billy related, "was 'take it easy, now, Joe: it's a long fight and we got 15 rounds to go.'"

In the eighth, shortly before the end, Billy, himself was seen to laugh. On that occasion, he recalled, he whispered to Louis:

"What are you trying to do—kill me? We're pals, ain't we?"

Jacobs spent several minutes trying to get Conn to change his mind about hanging up his gloves for good. Finaly, Billy winked and said, "Well, maybe, Uncle Mike."

Louis Nets $48,056.65 From Bout

By JOHN WHEELER

NEW YORK, June 22—(NANA) The Louis-Conn fight, held Wednesday, leads to the following conclusion: It will be the last $100-a-seat event for some time; it looked as if Conn was carried for six or seven rounds by Louis, in the hope the contest would prove to be interesting; the fighters and promoters prospered and the public got stuck, as usual. At least, these are the opinions of an old-time sports writer who has been peering at contests for many years.

Disappointment was generally expressed by the spectators who had paid fancy prices, and even by those who listened to the report of the battle on the radio, for free. However, fight fans have a short memory.

As to the practice of the better fighter carrying an opponent, it is not new. One of the great spectacles, following the first World War, was the battle at Boyle's Thirty Acres in Jersey City, between Jack Dempsey, the champion, and Georges Carpentier, the French champion, known as the Orchid Man. The total of the advance sale was astounding for those days—more than a million dollars—the quality of the customers beyond reproach, that is, considering those occupying front-row ringside seats. The story goes that Tex Rickard, the colorful promoter, had a talk with Jack Dempsey the night before the battle, about as follows:

"Listen, Jack, we've got a big sale of tickets and a lot of nice people are going to see the fight tomorrow, so don't make it too short—give them some kind of a show."

PLANS CHANGED

According to well-informed experts of that period, Dempsey agreed, but, in the second round, Carpentier, who packed a powerful right, hit the champion on the chin and his legs buckled. This promptly changed the whole picture. From then on Dempsey took no chances and practically broke the Frenchman in two with his dynamite blows. After knocking the Orchid Man out, he gallantly picked him up and carried him to his corner.

As to Wednesday's fight the financial totals are impressive, but, when boiled down, the shrinkage is surprising. Uncle Sam seemed to do better than any of the promoters or contestants, and a rough analysis follows:

According to the official figures, the gate receipts were $1,925,564, and $50,000 (not $225,000 as reported) was paid for the radio and television rights—making a total of $1,975,564. The revenue from the sale of the moving pictures cannot yet be determined, but the two contestants will participate on the same percentage basis in this and are assured of several thousand dollars additional.

Of the present total, Joe Louis gets 40 percent, which is $625,916.40. Of this amount, it is estimated his training expenses were $35,000; $208,638.80 to his manager, which is the customary one-third, and $1,000 he is allowed as a tax exemption for two dependents—himself and his daughter—making a total of $244,638.80 and leaving for Louis, before taxes, $381,277.60. Based on the current tax law, assuming he had practically no other income during 1946, Louis would pay an estimated tax of $333,220.95, leaving him a net, for his end of the fight, of $48,056.65.

CONN GETS $35,194.72

Billy Conn would receive 20 percent of the total receipts, or $312,958.20. His expenses—including his manager's share and tax exemptions allowed — $141,319.40 —leave a total, before taxes, of $171,638.80. Estimating the tax on the same basis as Louis, it would amount to $136,444.08, leaving Conn $35,194.72.

The promoter's gross on the total revenue, without the movie rights, would be $625,916.40. It is impossible to calculate with any degree of accuracy the promotion expense, rent of the Yankee Stadium, and so forth. However, according to reliable information, 10 percent of the gate receipts—after taxes—go into a pool, which the Yankee Stadium and the Polo Grounds divide 50-50. This is a co-operative deal to provide a site for a big fight, no matter which New York ball team is at home.

It is estimated that Louis and Conn each owes Mike Jacobs, the promoter, about $125,000 because of money advanced by Jacobs for taxes, training, traveling and living expenses. Fighters are eligible for advances after they have signed contracts. It is also reported that Joe Louis has been very generous with his money, giving it away to GIs when he was in the service, and to other friends who have requested loans.

PLANS SUIT FOR $100,000

O'Toole Tells Counsel to Bring Libel Action Against Jacobs

WASHINGTON, June 20 (UP)—Representative Donald L. O'Toole (D., N. Y.), said today he has instructed his lawyers in New York to bring a $100,000 criminal libel suit against Mike Jacobs, promoter of the Joe Louis-Billy Conn fight.

He announced the libel action after an unsuccessful demand that the New York State Athletic Commission hold up purses in last night's heavyweight championship fight and investigate all circumstances of the bout.

Jacobs countered at New York that O'Toole criticized the bout because "his office asked me for complimentary tickets to the show and I refused to give them to him."

Fistic Industry Attack Continues

BY BUS HAM

WASHINGTON, June 21—(AP)—Rep. Donald L. O'Toole, the scrappy Irishman who aimed a haymaker at the Louis-Conn fight, followed it today with a short jab at the fistcuff sport in general.

"The trouble with boxing," the New York Democrat told a reporter, "is that persons in authority in the various states pay no attention to it until something like this—a national fraud scandal—comes along.

"What the sport needs is proper supervision, and the governors could solve the problem by putting competent men in as boxing officials, paying them well and giving them needed power."

O'Toole said, "The National Boxing Association can't get the job done because it lacks authority." New York, for instance, where the Louis-Conn fight was held, is not a member of the N. B. A., he noted.

Abe F. Greene, president of the N. B. A., came up fast with the answer to that one.

"Maybe this would be a good time for Mr. O'Toole to use his good offices to bring his home state of New York into the N. B. A. fold for the good of boxing," Greene commented in Paterson, N. J.

He further suggested that the congressman "keep boxing generally out of his barbecuing of Promoter Mike Jacobs and concentrate his fire on his home sector, which was the locale of the promotion."

As his clincher Greene remarked that the N. B. A. made the same objections to the bout, before it came off, that O'Toole raised afterward.

O'Toole, a squat, 44-year-old Brooklynite with an athletic background, sent a telegram to Edward Eagan, New York State Boxing Commission chairman yesterday, calling for an investigation of Wednesday night's heavyweight championship affair.

He also demanded that purses of the fighters be held up "in justice to those who were swindled."

"One more fraud (such as the Louis-Conn bout) and boxing will be ruined in the United States for many years to come," he wired Eagan.

In an interview later, O'Toole said that Promoter Mike Jacobs has an "absolute monopoly" on boxing, and that "boxing in New York has not gone into the gutter; it's gone into the sewer."

Asserting that Jacobs ties up promising boxers with contracts to fight for him before he will agree to arrange title matches, the lawmaker added that the promoter also controls bouts in Madison Square Garden, the Polo Grounds and Yankee Stadium.

Jacobs, in New York, replied to O'Toole's blast by saying that the representative "wanted complimentary tickets and I refused him—so now he comes hollering."

This O'Toole denied and stated that his New York law partner invited him to attend the fight as his guest, but he "turned it down."

Later, O'Toole announced that he would sue Jacobs for $100,000 for "accusing me of extortion—I have instructed my New York attorneys to file suit for damages."

Of the fight, O'Toole told a reporter that Conn should not have been permitted to enter the same ring with Louis; that he visited both training camps and had first-hand knowledge of the condition of the fighters. Louis was tough, hardened by workouts with rugged sparring partners; Conn was not, he asserted.

Two preliminary boys fighting as the champion and challenger

would have been "thrown out of the ring," he said.

"But no one representing New York state had gumption enough to stop the bout," O'Toole said.

"The attorney general of New York state should take cognizance of it since the State Boxing Commission is an arm of the government.

"And when such things go over the state lines as they did in this affair, then the federal government should look into them."

O'Toole said that he intends to "give Eagan time enough to do something" about an investigation, including an "honest report of fight conditions in New York."

But, if necessary, he added, "I may ask for federal action."

In New York Eagan said he saw no necessity for an official investigation. He asserted there was nothing dishonest about the fight and that the rules of the State Athletic Commission had been observed in every deail.

Martin Finds Consolation in Ring Forecast

Writer Says Louis Smashed Conn Down in Only Round of Actual Fighting.

By WHITNEY MARTIN

NEW YORK, June 20, (AP)—Well, it's better to be one-eighth right than eight-eighths wrong, and as a fellow who picked Joe Louis to knock out Billy Conn in the first round we have one more consolation. He actually did it in the first round of fighting.

The other seven rounds were a May-pole dance, and if Billy had held a ribbon attached to the champion the Pittsburger would have had Joe wrapped like a mummy before it was over as he forever circled and danced, circled and danced.

In other words, it was an almost unbelievably dull fight until the five or so furious seconds in the eighth round when Louis' fists overwhelmed his futile rival. So dull, in fact, that even one who might be skeptical of a "fix" would have to admit that such a thing just couldn't be. A fixed fight invariably is crammed with furious, if synthetic, action, and there certainly was nothing synthetic about the knockout. Anesthetic would be the word.

The obvious truth is that Conn, aware from painful experience of the lethal power of the champion's blows, was almost painfully respectful. He took no chances, and the two or three times he did lash out with a right he went back into his shell so quickly it seemed he inadvertantly must have stuck a finger into hot water. And he was risking getting himself into hot

All the time he must have known the inevitable ending. There is something so inexorable about the ever-shuffling, ever-stalking Louis with his face an expressionless mask and somber eyes liquid pools of promised destruction that he even fascinates the onlooker, and the ever-growing feeling of approaching doom he must create in the heart of the man he is fighting must be practically hypnotic. No matter which way Conn would turn, there was dark destiny forever in front of him.

If such a fight could have an appeal, it was the appeal of suspense, the waiting for something that was certain to happen, but when? That, and watching the superb fighting machine with an unbelievable quickness and deftness of hand that is Joe Louis.

That Conn would be the first to tire seemed obvious. He was dancing and skipping and running and going through schoolboy gyrations with his hands until it was certain that somewhere, sometime he would have to pause for even a fraction of an instant to refill his bellows, and that fraction of an instant would be all the dark destroyer would need.

By a curious coincidence an action by both men at the start of the eighth round bore a noticeable resemblance to the polite touching of gloves always starting the final round of a bout. It was as if each had known it was to be the last round.

Louis stalks and fights with hands close together in front of him, sometimes putting both gloved fists forward almost simultaneously. Conn did the same thing at the exact moment, with the result the two men unconsciously foretold the abrupt end of the fight.

Sometimes even destiny sends out its warning signals.

Louis Flattens Conn In 8th To Retain Crown

Champion Is Cheered By 45,266 At Stadium As He Flashes Old Form

By SID FEDER

YANKEE STADIUM, NEW YORK, June 19.—(AP)—The punch that has made Joe Louis the greatest fighter of his time offset the years the mighty Brown Bomber has been away from his fistic trade tonight and left his crown as king of the ring still perched on his head in the most talked of sports event in history.

Putting his championship on the line for the 22nd time since he tore it off the head of Ancient Jim Braddock, the tan terror of the fight world overcame the strongest challenge in his nine year race by knocking out game, but out-punched Billy Conn in the eighth round of their return match, just as he did it five years ago in the 13th.

A vast crowd of some 45,266—below the hoped-for estimate of a packed house in this huge ball yard—roared in cheers as the brown bomber flashed his old-time dynamite for one brief instant to land four fierce, victious blows and wipe out the threat that has been hanging over him for five years.

It was just five years ago yesterday, that the Pittsburgh pretty boy piled up a wide point margin through 12 rounds then made the fatal mistake of trying to slug it out with Joe, and wound up the way just about all of them do with the blasting bomber.

For five years, Joe has waited for a chance to know he could have done it anyway. For five years, Billy has waited for another shot—sure that he could do it on boxing skill alone over the 15 round route. And for five years the fight faithful not only of this country, but the whole world, wondered and waited.

Tonight they got the answer. After seven rounds in which Louis stalked his rival, like an infantry snipe hunter stalks its prey in war-time. The action was slow, as Joe inched forward and Billy circled out of the danger from the cans of ether Joe carries in his glove.

Mostly it was just left handed pecking, with a few jabs and a few hooks and a rare—very rare—right hand attempt.

Then, midway of the eighth, Joe maneuvered his man into position. He laced out with a long lashing left that straightened Billy up on his heels. The handsome challenger from Smokytown was wide open. In a flash, Louis was in. His right ripped over twice, like a pile driver pounding a pole into the mud. Billy started to come down, slowly, like a building falling apart after a shell hits its.

Then came a slashing, murderous left—and it was over. The Pittsburgh pretty boy hit the gleaming canvas in the center of this spacious Bonox ball park. He lay there flat on his back, his arms outstretched and referee Eddie Joseph—the same man who counted him out just five years ago yesterday in the Polo Grounds, across the Harlem River—counted the same full ten. Billy had barely stirred when he finished. He could have counted another ten. At 2 minutes, 19 seconds of the eighth the roof fell in.

For Billy it was for keeps. Immediately afterward in his dressing room, he admitted it.

"This was my last fight," he said. "I'm through. I just haven't got it."

For Louis it was the last fight at least until 1947. He had planned to try another one in September, but there is no challenger left ready to trade anything but golf shots with him—and there are few of those, inasmuch as he's down in the low 70's now.

What's more, his income from his estimated "cut" of some $675,000 from the gate of about $2,250,000 for this fight puts him well into the upper brackets, with no financial point in plying his trade again this year. Louis' "end" figured to be about $337,500.

In his dressing room, he was the same calm, quiet-speaking Joe who came out of the Alabama cotton fields by way of Detroit and sored up the trail to a spot not only as the greatest fistic destroyer of his generation, but one of the best-liked ever to put on a pair of gloves.

"I finished him with a right cross, a right upper-cut and a left hook," he explained, in reply to a question.

"Conn was slower than the last time," he added. "I told Manny (Trainer Manny Seamon) just before the eighth round that I was going to fight him this round just to see what he'd do."

Someone asked then if it was his easiest fight. "Seems to me," he tossed off, "I remember a guy named Levinsky." This was King Levinsky of Chicago who barely waited to be hit before admitting the Bomber was the better man some years back.

Thus ended the most ballyhooed and anticipated classic that ring history has ever known, and once more the ancient jinx of a New York ball park—that a challenger has never won a title in one of them—held good.

ROUND ONE

They danced around for several seconds, Joe missing two light left leads. Conn moved from side to side as Joe stalked him. Joe was short with another left lead. Conn bounced two light jabs off Joe's eye. Again Billy flicked with his left. Conn slipped another jab across as Joe raised his body with a left. Louis landed a hard right on the head. Joe bounded a hard right left on the head and took a hook to the body in return. Billy's left was short and landed on the shoulder but he dug two lefts to the body. Louis was stalking Conn but neither had landed solidly at the bell after a round of a slow action and the crowd booed. Conn's round.

ROUND TWO

Conn suddenly ripped in with a hard right to the eye and a left to the body. There was a dull red mark alongside Louis eye. Conn bounced a hook off the body as Joe landed a hard right to the head. Joe rushed in, missed a right but landed two left jabs. Conn circled around sticking with his left. Joe jabbed a ripping right to the face. Again Louis bounced his left off Conn's features. Billy was short with two lefts, then hustled in with a short right on the head. Billy picked off a long left lead as he circled around. Momentarily Conn clowned around as he kept Louis off. Joe was just short with a left at the bell. Louis' round.

ROUND THREE

Conn tore in with a hook to head and body. Joe flicked to the face with his left and took one in the face in return. Joe reached over with a long left high on the head. Conn tossed a took to the body. They exchanged long left jabs. Joe was short with two left leads. Suddenly Billy slashed in with a hard hook to the body and another to the face. They traded lefts with no damage. Joe stabbed out with a long left to the midsection. Joe's left hook was picked off and Billy stuck two lefts to the tummy. Joe hooked a left to the head at the bell. Conn's round.

ROUND FOUR

They still were measuring each other. Conn came in with a left hook to the body and received a left and right to his own midsection. They traded long left jabs and repeated the process. For fully 15 seconds not a blow was tried by either man. Joe cornered Conn and ripped two left and a right to the head. Joe was just short with a smashing right and jabbed two sizzling lefts to the face. Conn pecked away with a jab and took two of the same from Joe. Joe was very wild with a right cross but bounced a hard straight left off Billy's face. He put three more in the same spot. Conn half-slipped on the ring flooring and Louis stepped back just as the bell sounded. Louis' round.

ROUND FIVE

Louis jabbed twice with his left as Conn circled him. Another jab reddened Conn's face. They traded short lefts to the body. Billy picked off two lefts and landed a hook to the face as Joe dug a right to the body. They exchanged jabs. Joe was just short with another ripping right. Louis leaped in with a hard right hand that shook Conn. Joe caught Conn with a smashing right and left to the head. Louis flicked with a jab. Conn flicked a right to the face. Louis caught Conn in a corner with a hard right to the body but took a left and right from Conn at the bell. Louis' round.

ROUND SIX

Joe reached out a long left to the face and repeated the process. Billy circled out of trouble and jumped in with a left to the head. Joe landed two left jabs. Joe tried three more left jabs but only one landed. Conn flecked away with four left jabs. Louis caught Conn against the ropes with a left to the head and a right to the ribs. In close Louis bounced a left off the ear. Joe drew a right cross high on the head. Conn jumped in with a swinging hook to the ear, circling away slipped to one knee. They traded hard left jabs. Billy grinned as Joe landed another jab. Louis was wild with a long left and took a jab to the nose at the bell. Louis' round.

ROUND SEVEN

They both were short with left leads. Louis landed a jab on the forehead. Joe dug a left to the body. Conn danced in with a hard left to the ear and then took a short chopping left on the face. Joe measured Billy against the ropes but Conn closed in before Louis let go the punch. Louis straightened Conn up with a left jab but his follow-up right was too high to make trouble. Conn hooked a left to the body but took left right and left to his own midsection in close. Conn ducked in side as Joe fired a right to the body. Billy landed a hook flush on the mouth but took a left to the head at the bell. Louis' round.

ROUND EIGHT

Billy bounced a left off the face as he circled Joe. Joe was still the aggressor trying to corner the challenger. Billy bounced a left off the face and took one himself. Louis caught Conn coming in with a left to the face but missed with a right cross. In close Louis fired a jolting right to the ear. They traded straight hard lefts. In close Louis fired five punches that straightened Conn up. Louis smashed Billy full in the face and a dull red mark appeared on Billy's face. Louis fired a hard left that staggered Billy and followed it by a hard left and right that stretched Billy full on his back on the floor where Referee Joseph counted him out the full "ten" at 2:14 of the round.

Louis' Next Tiff Is Taking Shape

NEW YORK, June 24—(UP)—Promoter Mike Jacobs began paving the way today for Joe Louis to defend his world's heavyweight championship against Tami Mouriello, of the Bronx, in a 15-round bout at Yankee Staduim on the night of Sept. 11.

Although nothing was closed definitely, it was learned that terms for the proposed bout were agreed upon today at a conference between Jacobs and Marshall Miles, Louis' manager, and James (Lefty) Remini, manager of Mauriello.

The absence of Louis, who went out golfing, prevented any definite agreement being reached at today's conference.

Louis will receive 40 per cent of the net gate, just as he did in his successful title defense against Billy Conn Wednesday night, while Mauriello will receive 20 per cent, the usual challenger's share.

The match probably will be closed tomorrow when Jacobs, the fight ers and their managers confer again. Miles said the chances of the match going through were "extremely hopeful."

CONN'S STEPMOTHER SAD

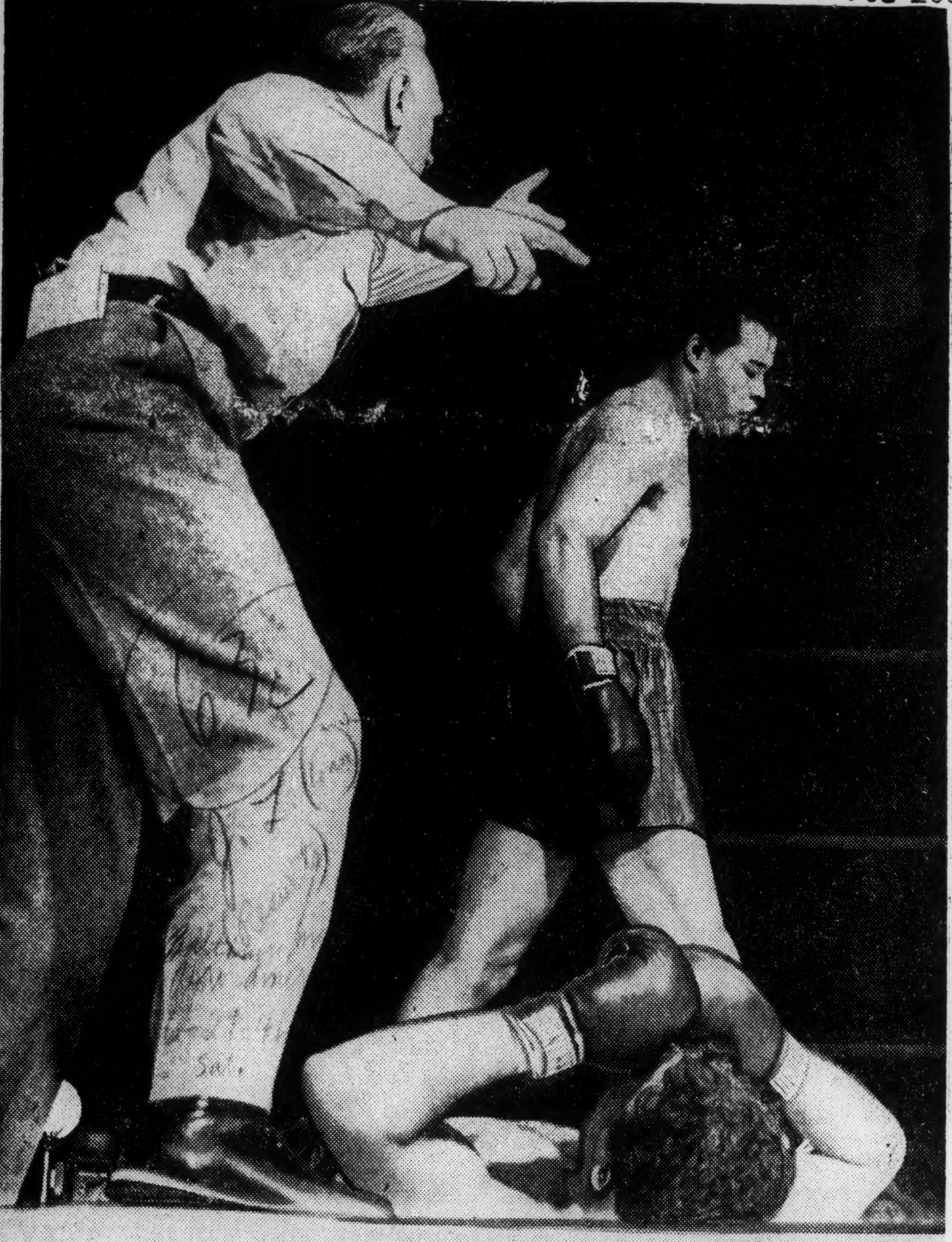
He Was So Confident, She Says—Challenger's Sister Sobs

PITTSBURGH, June 19 (AP)—"I'm sorry for Billy. He was so confident," said Mrs. Henrietta Conn, step-mother of the challenger, smiling bravely tonight after Billy Conn had lost his second bid for the world's heavyweight title.

Near by, red-headed Peggy Ann Conn, Billy's 16-year-old sister, sobbed hysterically and was comforted by relatives and other friends who had gathered in the living room of William R. Conn Sr., home to hear the broadcast.

Billy's step-mother missed the actual knockout. Throughout the early part of the fight she had held 2-year-old Jimmy Conn, the fighter's brother. When the youngster began to cry, Mrs. Conn left the room to put him to bed.

She rushed downstairs in time to hear the radio announcer say: "It's all over." Earlier, at the close of the fourth round, Mrs. Conn had said "I'm not afraid now."



Referee Eddie Joseph sending the Detroit Dynamiter to a neutral corner before beginning the fatal ten count for Pittsburgh Billy Conn at 2:19 of the eighth round . . .

What is The Lesson of The Louis-Con n Fight?

Thomasville (Ga) Times
June 21, 1946

The battle in a boxing ring between Joe Louis, a negro man, and Billy Conn, a white man, in New York Wednesday night drew thousands of people some of whom traveled thousands of miles and paid several hundred dollars to witness it. It is reported that there were people from all over the world at the bout. The price of ringside seats was $100 each and of course to get one of these seats some had to pay many times the regular price. Then there was the cost of transportation and lodging to be added which ran the total cost of attending the bout up into big money for a lot of folks.

Just what animates the minds of people who would travel these long distances, pay excessive costs and consume a lot of time to see two men of less than ordinary intelligence spend a few minutes shoving each other around in a boxing ring? The answer to this question we would like to know but we are afraid it would add nothing of value to the sum of human intelligence. There is certainly nothing proved of vale to value to the human race by the so-called fight between the two men. Most of these boxing matches are not on the level being promoted by crooks for the money they can get out of the suckers who pay big prices to attend. More often than not the bouts are fixed before the principals enter the ring so that the gamblers can make big money betting on the outcome.

It is said that somewhere between two and three million dollars was taken in at the gate for admissions. To our mind one lesson to be learned from this is that the people of this country have more money than they have the good sense to use it. Perhaps we won the recent war too easily. Maybe we should have paid a greater sacrifice in both blood and money. It may take another catastrophe to bring us to our senses again.

Loose Talk

News. Birmingham, Ala

After Joe Louis had an easy time with Billy Conn, the experts, both amateur and paid, flocked forward to say how lousy the fight was, what a set-up it was, how ridiculous it was to have matched Conn against Louis in the first place. Yet, before the fight, a sizable minority of those same observers had been suggesting the possibility that Joe Louis did not have his punch any longer, that Conn might be able to outlast him. Fri. 7-5-46

Now that the atomic experiment, first phase, has been completed at Bikini, there are many who eagerly mount platforms of one kind or another to tell the world that the experiment shows this or that. Some Navy people say that it shows navies will still be necessary. At the same time an admiral says that the explosion to be set off under water may rip the seams of many vessels. First one side, then the other.

The world did not come to an end Sunday when the bomb named "Gilda" plummeted down to the target area. Because no tidal wave followed the explosion, because the sea did not promptly open to swallow all the vessels, some have sounded the tone even of disappointment. Yet scientists, in their careful manner, are pointing out that things went about as expected. And as reporters and others are able to get close-hand views of the ships, the reports continue to mount that great damage actually was wrought. Fri. 7-5-46

Both the event in Yankee Stadium and the event at Bikini indicate the human tendency to accept loose concepts. So it was that many people promptly began repeating the idea that the championship fight was a fiasco—when it merely ended the way Louis' record indicated it was likely to end. And in the same manner some people have been "lowrating" the Bikini explosion.

To hear some persons commenting, one might conclude that only the end of the world last Sunday and only a knockout by Billy Conn in the first round would have satisfied them. News. Birmingham, Ala

Owwer Joe Did That

The Defender

DAILY MIRROR in New York had the best editorial on Joe Louis (June 21st). Negro publishers then in New York convention were urged to include it in their minutes and to reprint it, but, apparently weren't interested. Chicago, Ill

Ed Smalls who runs Small's Paradise in New York, and Benny Caldwell who runs Club Bali in D.C. have both brought it to our attention and we quote a passage commentig on Joe's gallantry in failing to hit Billy Conn when he twice slipped: Sat. 7-20-46

"Joe Louis was not trained in chivalry on the Field of the Cloth of Gold, nor even on the Field of Agincourt. He is not a graduate of Eton or Groton or of West Point or of St. Cyr.

"He is a product of the hills of our Southland and the streets of our cities. His chivalry comes to him naturally, as it does to all decent people, with the milk of his mother.

"It is his sense of morality, his love of sport, his instinct for fair play that drives him to do the clean and upright act even in a fight.

"He does not depend upon advantage; such a man would rather go down to defeat than stand as champion of the world without self-respect." (Another big Amen! John Henry).

Joe Louis, Racketeer

Black Dispatch

Where are all of the folk who argued prior to Wednesday night that Joe Louis was in a racket, and that the deal was to surrender his crown to Billy Conn, so that later on in the autumn he would have opportunity to win it back? Those who presented that questionable picture of venality and perfidy have gone into hiding and in their stead is another gang who shout, "The whole thing was a fake. Joe knew before the fight that Conn was a 'set-up' and he prolonged the farce eight rounds, when he could have knocked Conn out in one."

Oklahoma City, Okla

The folk doing the talking now fail in the latter instance to point out just how Joe was going to profit by waiting eight rounds before knocking Conn out. We can understand how two fights would net more to these two gladiators than one, but with all of the money stacked in the ticket office Wednesday night, what profit would it be to Joe Louis polly-foxing around with Billy Conn for eight rounds? He knew if he knocked out Conn the public would never pay to see the two meet again, and quite evidently Joe went in the ring to do exactly what he did do, and at his first opportunity. *Sat 6-29-46*

The truth is, there is definite attempt now to whip Joe Louis with evil propaganda. One congressman has demanded an investigation. He wants the purses of Joe and Billy held up while study is made as to whether any fraud existed in last Wednesday evening's fisticuff. This congressman cannot put his finger on a single probable cause for investigation, but he thinks there might be some sort of stink in this transaction where a Jew and a Negro made a million dollars.

The Black Dispatch believes there was more evil propaganda in the newspapers than there was anywhere else prior to the fight, for it should be recalled that high-powered white writers wrote lengthy articles presenting the view that white men had greater leg resistance than black, and with Joe four years older, Conn would, of course, wear him out and batter him down when Joe lost his reflex action. Conn was going to ride his bicycle so fast that heavy, 32-year-old Joe would soon give out. *6-29-46*

Now the fight turned out just the opposite. Conn's legs gave out, while the older man did not develop a decent sweat during the evening's performance. It appears to the Black Dispatch that there was integrity in Joe's utterance just before the two gladiators entered the ring. When told about Conn's pedalistic plans, Joe dryly remarked, "He may run, but he can't hide." At another time prior to the fight Joe said he always went to bed at ten o'clock, and he had such plans for Wednesday night. When one examines the fight based upon the predictions of the champion before he entered the ring with Conn, there seems to be integrity of the highest character. Joe even kept his bed engagement, and he did not attend the celebration staged by his friends and admirers down in Harlem later on that night.

The truth is, Conn was whipped before he entered the ring; not because he is white and Joe is black, but because of false propaganda. Conn was made to believe the interest of the entire white race rested on his shoulders, and that was a heavier weight than he could bear. The unperturbed, placid disposition of Joe Louis before and after the fight indicates he had the proper slant on Wednesday night's affair. Joe went into the ring assuming it was nothing more than a fight between two men, with the element of race entirely eliminated. White propaganda destroyed Billy Conn before he entered the ring Wednesday night.

About the only thing worth mentioning just now, and which will bear a great deal of investigation is the location of another challenger. Most assuredly if there was a frame-up Wednesday evening it ended up in Joe Louis framing himself out of a job. The poor saps who spent $100 to witness "the fight of a century" would certainly have been howling now had the Brown Bomber applied lightning to Billy's jaw in the first round. If Joe knew Billy was a "set-up," he was certainly kind to the $100 boys. He at least gave them a chance to warm their seats on a chilly night.

Louis Teaches a Lesson

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Those persons who saw Joe Louis knock out Billy Conn at New York's Yankee Stadium last Wednesday night were impressed by the champion's physical prowess, but those who heard him on the air just after the fight were the ones who received the best insight into Joe Louis, The Man. *Sat.*

Words of greeting to his mother in Detroit, and to John (Roxie) Roxborough were the first to fall from the champion's lips—nothing came ahead of them—and it is not too much to believe that these two individuals were also on his mind as he chased Conn around the ring. *6-29-46*

It would be hard to find a more effective ambassador of good will than this modest, unassuming 32-year-old man. Each time that he enters the ring, he teaches a lesson, not only to his opponent, but to us all.

There is a tendency on the part of some individuals, once they reach the top, to forget their humble beginnings and to forget those who helped them in their upward climb. But not with Joe.

His first thought was of his mother, his second, of the man so largely responsible for his rise to fame and fortune. It didn't matter that Roxie, now serving a sentence in a Michigan prison, could not be present. He was there in spirit, and as far as Joe is concerned, Roxie is still his manager and probably always will be.

Love of mother and love of fellow man are greatly lacking in so many places that it is refreshing to see them exemplified so sincerely and so unashamed.

Even against his opponent, the Brown Bomber demonstrated his courtesy and good sportsmanship by stepping aside when Conn fell to the canvas, giving him time to regain his feet instead of rushing in for the kill.

As far as we know, Joe doesn't smoke or drink and no one can question his morals. Because of this, as much as for his fistic skill, he enjoys the admiration and acclaim of persons of all races. He'll be champion in our book for a long, long time.

Read the Fine Print

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Just a month ago, William David Conn took time off from his preparations for the Joe Louis fight to announce the following: *Sat. 7-20-46*

"If I should win the heavyweight title from Joe Louis I have no intention of defending it again this year."

Some people sign contracts without reading all of the fine print. Conn is one of those guys except that he probably didn't read any of it.

According to Mike Jacobs, Billy Conn signed a contract with him guaranteeing Louis a return fight for the title within 90 days. That is the only way he got the match.

Actually Jacobs didn't know whether he wanted another heavyweight bout this winter or not; before making up his mind he would rather see what the public thought about it. To protect himself, nevertheless, he had Conn sign for a return bout with Louis in case Conn won.

He is convinced now that the public will take another heavyweight title bout this year, so consequently signed Tami Mauriello to meet the champ on September 18.

Alabamans Take Brown Bomber's Victory In Stride

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 6-29

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Birmingham Negroes took Joe Louis' decisive victory over Billy Conn in stride.

There were no wild street celebrations such as followed some of Joe's victories in the early days of his career. A Joe Louis victory is taken for granted now.

There was no doubt here as to the outcome, and when the knockout came in the eighth round, the comment was: "Well, Joe really picked his round didn't he?" They were referring to the champion's prediction that he'd end the fight in the eighth frame.

Radio listening parties were held throughout the city. I was invited to four, attended two.

More interesting, however, was the reaction of whites here to the decimation of the "white hope." Some whites, bitter over the outcome, claim Conn was ill. How they found it out way down here in Alabama when no one in New York has mentioned it is a mystery.

Some local sports writers whose wishful thinking appeared between the lines of their pre-fight ballyhoo, took it hard.

Naylor Stone, writing on the sports page of the Birmingham Post declared: "This is one fight we wish we had not seen.

"It would have been nice if Conn had won. The Pittsburgher is a pretty swell John and Louis has certainly had the title and the swag that goes with a championship long enough."

The editorial page of the Post reacted differently. In a lead editorial it declared: "In this world where so many problems go 'round and round' and never seem to come out anywhere, it's a relief to have one question settled. Joe Louis definitely, positively and finally—at least until his next fight—remains the champ. And incidentally, we'd like to give him a hand for the sportsmanlike manner in which he conducted himself last night. Twice when Conn lost his footing and went down Louis might have finished him off with little trouble, but he refused to take advantage of the openings."

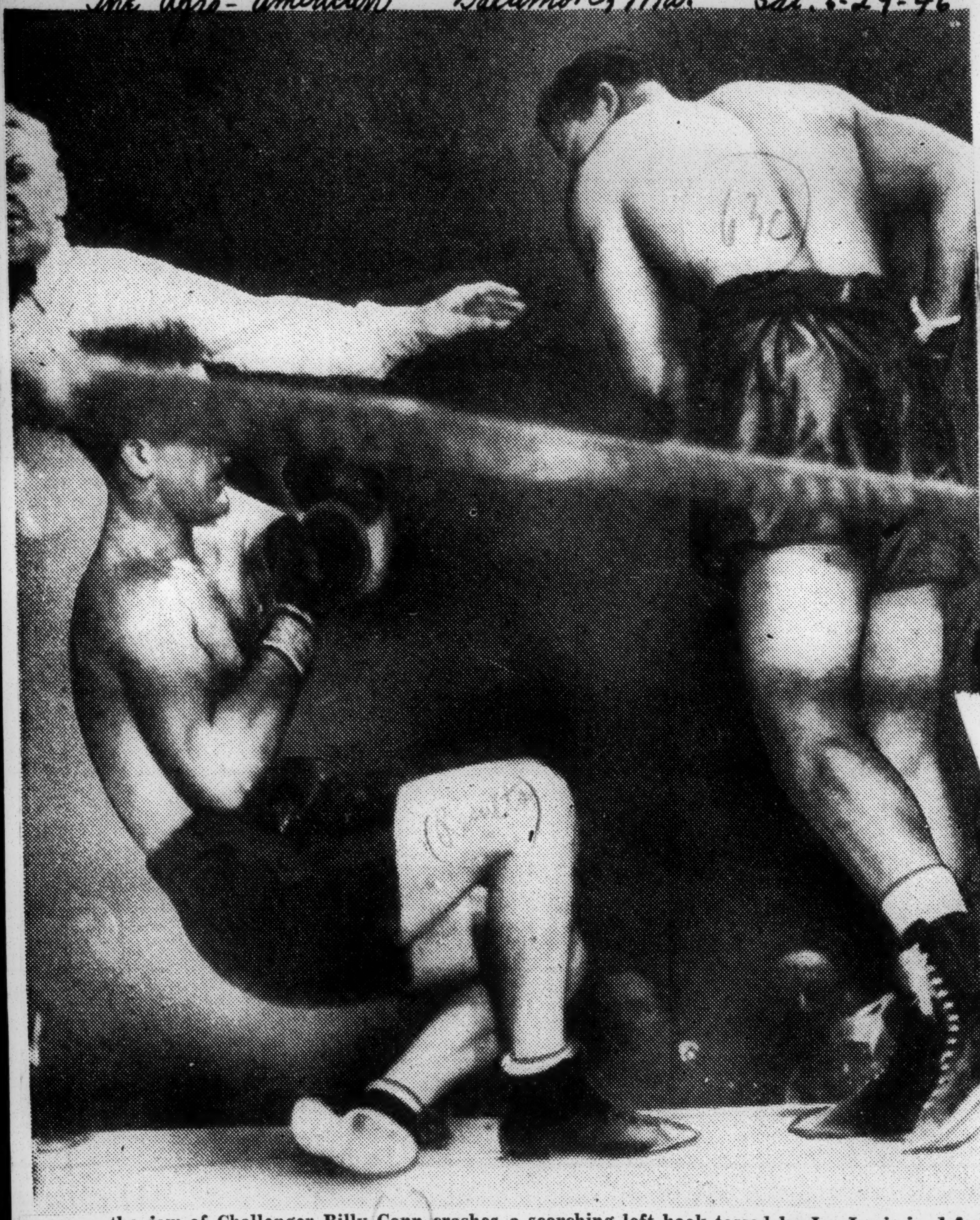
Retiring Gov. Chauncey Sparks, admitting he knows nothing of the fight game or of fighters, declared Joe is the greatest heavyweight of all time. His unexpected comment evidently resulted from his pride in the fact that Joe is an Alabaman. Whether Joe is equally proud of his home state is a question on which he has not been noticeably articulate.

The need of a Joe Louis victory as a booster for the morale of Negroes in the South is not now important to the extent it once was.

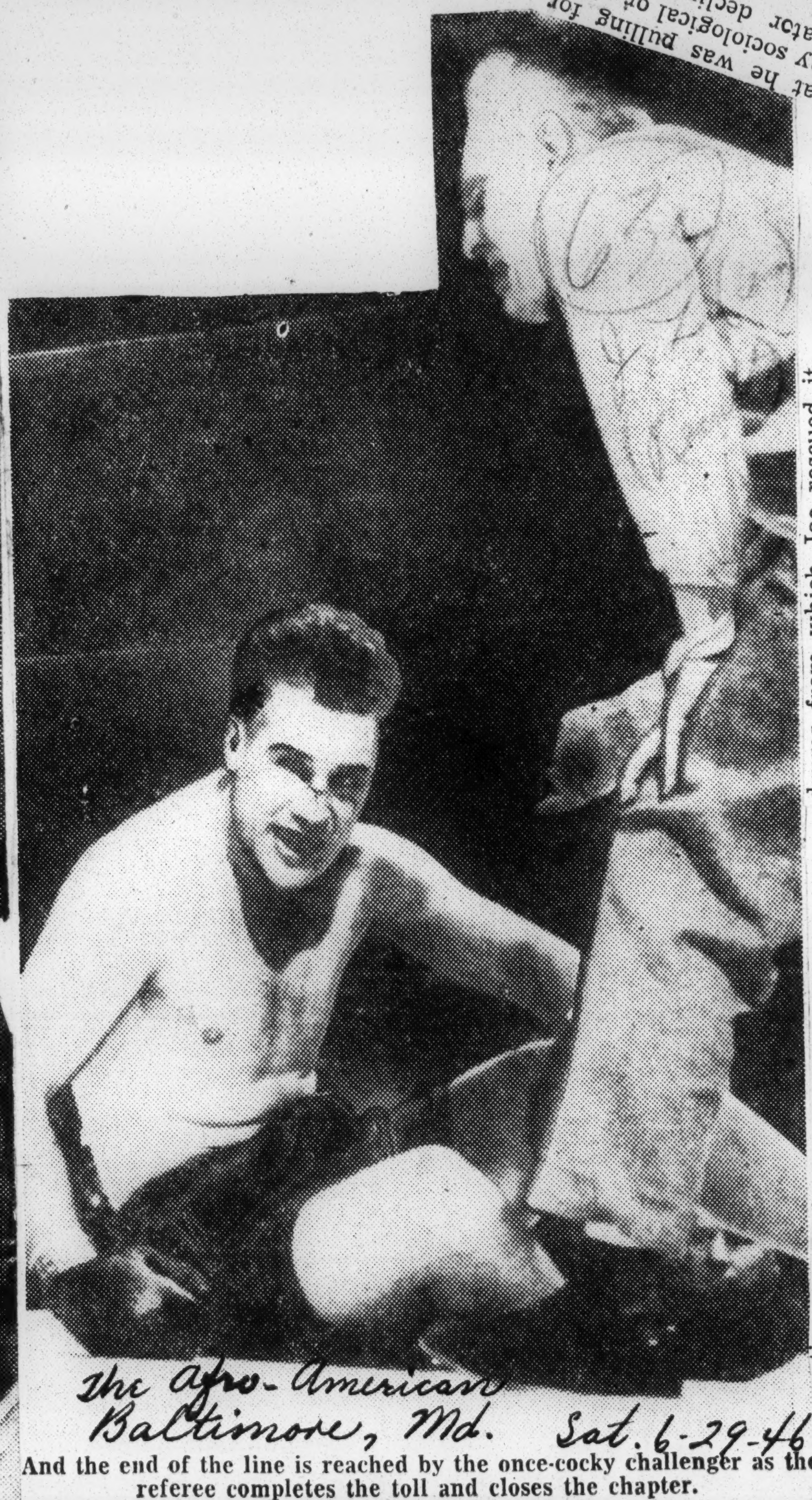
Negroes here, busy fighting for the ballot and for a better life, have come to realize that a Joe Louis victory in New York is not solving their problems down here.

Camera Shows How Joe Put Conn Away

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-29-46



-HAND on the jaw of Challenger Billy Conn crashes a scorching left hook tossed by Joe Louis in defense of his heavyweight championship at Yankee Stadium, Wednesday night . . .



The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-29-46

And the end of the line is reached by the once-cocky challenger as the referee completes the toll and closes the chapter.

Walter White

People, Politics And Places

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Louis Emerges with Honor

JOE LOUIS is the only person connected with the June 19 imbroglio to emerge with honor. The vaunted, reckless courage of the Irish took as bad a beating as did Billy Conn in the latter's sheer terror as he climbed into the ring at Yankee Stadium. And who, feeling vicariously the lethal power of those *Sat. 6-29-46* four final blows Joe [redacted] landed in the eighth round, can blame Conn for being scared? The less said about the suckers who paid $100 a seat for "ring side" seats (but in Mike Jacobs' book ring side is any seat south of Yonkers or north of Trenton) the more merciful one is.

As for Mike Jacobs, characterization of him by a New York columnist as the "stingiest man in the sports world" is by far a masterpiece of understatement. Jacobs boasts that when the luckiest windfall which ever fell into a promoter's lap in the person of Joe Louis came on the scene, Jacobs' office was under his hat. Unable to afford an office, he managed his meagre business wherever he happened to be.

Joe Brings Fighting Boom

FAITH OF the boxing public in the game had almost totally been destroyed. The thunder in Joe's fist and, far more important, his absolute refusal to participate in any fixed bout or do anything else unworthy brought about the greatest boxing boom in history.

Today Jacobs is a multi-millionaire almost wholly and solely because of Joe. Will the June 19 fight and the $100 ring side seats mean the killing of the goose that laid the golden egg? Will the total lack of opponents for Joe and the passing of the years which take their toll even from a Louis mean the decline of boxing? The answer to both questions seems to be in the negative.

Joe has given generously of his earnings to charity. If Mike Jacobs has separated from any money for that purpose he has kept it a dark secret as far as this commentator is concerned. With all of the white world's boasts of its moral superiority, it remained for a Negro to clean up a sordid business like boxing and from the point of view of today, it looks quite certain that once Joe Louis hangs up his gloves, we shall see the boxing game go back into the doldrums from which Joe rescued it.

Shifting Race Attitudes?

WHAT MAY be a shifting of sectional attitudes on the race question has also been revealed by Joe. Did you listen to the half hour of ring side comment which preceded the fight? Did you notice that virtually every southerner (with the exception of Happy Chandler, High Commissioner of Baseball, and Mel Ott, manager of the New York Giants) and every woman questioned stated his or her belief that Joe would win, while virtually every northern person queried declared that he was pulling for Conn. Whether this has any sociological or other significance this commentator declines to say. But it did sound funny.

"Stinking Fight, Huh?"

Time, New York, N.Y.

Almost as soon as they touched gloves last week in Yankee Stadium, handsome Billy Conn, grinning hideously through his mouthpiece, moved in close to Joe Louis, muttered "Take it easy . . . we've got 15 rounds to go." By the third round, jeers began in the $30 seats, a half block away. In the $100 zone, Moscow's Andrei Gromyko (guest of Bernard M. Baruch) and Hollywood's Ann Sheridan were perhaps as disgusted, but more polite about it. In seven rounds, hardly a solid blow landed. *7-8-46*

It happened in the eighth. Joe Louis closed in. He hit Conn's head with two short, paralyzing rights and a left hook. The three blows left Conn flat on his back, eyes open, listening to the referee's count. As soon as he came to, Conn put the thoughts of 45,266 cash customers into words: "It was a stinking fight, huh?"

Nobody blamed Joe Louis. It takes two to make a fight. Harlem, which had not seen its Joe defend his crown since 1941, began an all-night jamboree with a parade and ended it with two stabbings, three shootings. (The New York *Sun* headlined: THREE DEAD IN HAPPY HARLEM). Shrewd Promoter Mike Jacobs, who had a big reputation for knowing just how much to sock the public, counted up his $1,925,565 gate, and his estimated $163,000 profit.

Next day, the real fighting began. A rambunctious Congressman from Brooklyn, name of Donald O'Toole, who had watched the fight by television, cried "Swindle." Critics blamed Billy Conn for not putting up a good fight, and asked why he had been allowed in the ring without a warm-up fight.

The answer was that Conn might have looked pretty good in a warm-up against the current crop of second-raters, and still flopped as badly when he got the main chance. He seemed to be suffering from an occupational disease that has afflicted many of Joe Louis' opponents—being scared to death. *New York, N.Y. 7-8-46*

Tunney Says Joe to Stay

The Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

MEXICO CITY—Former Heavyweight Champion Gene Tunney told a welcoming party here Saturday that Joe Louis is safe to retain his crown for at least three more years.

Tunney, here on business, said:

"I'm convinced it will take three or four years to build up a fighter to beat Louis, who is still young enough to regain his real championship form."

He also reiterated that he was prepared to wager $25,000 that the challenger would be ducksoup for either Welterweight Ray Robinson or Middleweight Rocky Graziano. *Sat. 6-29-46*

Greet The People

The Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-29-46

With Dorothy Lymas

Joe Louis, who retained his heavyweight crown last week without even working up a sweat, gave a demonstration of how a real champion champions a friend. Knowing what it meant to John Roxborough not to be on the scene for the match, the thoughtful fisticuffs king offered his discoverer the next best thing he could when he greeted him on the radio right in the wake of victory.

Conn Ran But Bike Wasn't Fast Enough

The Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. Sat 6-29-46

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

YANKEE STADIUM — Billy Conn ran but he couldn't hide from Joe Louis and thus another challenger seeking the pot of gold at the end of fistiana's gaudiest rainbow, came to the end of the trail.

A right uppercut followed by a left hook was all that Joe Louis needed to put the Pittsburgher away in 2 minutes and 19 seconds of the eighth round.

The AFRO predicted that the fight would end inside of nine rounds.

When the finish came, Louis was far in front on points. On this score card he won four rounds — the second, fourth, fifth and sixth and Conn had won one — the third. The first and seventh were scored even.

All attempts of Conn to confuse Joe and to feint him out of position came to naught. That rotary motioning of his gloves before his face was reminiscent of the motions made by youngsters engaging in their first schoolyard fight. It didn't fool Joe a bit.

Not Breathing Hard

Louis wasn't breathing "hard enough to blow out a match" as he stood in a neutral corner and watched Referee Eddie Joseph complete his 10-count over his fallen foe.

The fight was clean. There were no low punches.

Smart gamblers, believing that there might be a "fix," took a terrific beating with odds at 17-5 at fight time.

When the fighters entered the ring, Conn wore a white robe with his name on the back in green letters.

Louis wore a white robe also but over it was his traditional red and blue robe. A white towel was over his head. With him were Manny Seamon and Larry Amadee.

Frank Forbes and Jack O'Sullivan were the judges. Timekeeper was George Bannon and counting the knockdowns at the bell was John Burns.

Louis was missing at first, but once he got the range and was able to maneuver Conn into target position, his timing was little short of perfect.

From the fourth round on, ringside observers knew that Conn couldn't stand up much longer under the punishment that so obviously was in store.

O'Toole Sues Mike Jacobs For $200,000

New York, N.Y. Friday 6-28-46

Make Jacobs, fight promoter, has another battle on his agenda—a $200,000 slander and libel suit filed against him yesterday in the Supreme Court.

The action was brought by Rep. Donald L. O'Toole (D., N. Y.) who had done some sparring wit[h] "Uncle Mike" in caustic statement[s] given by each to the press as th[e] result of the Joe Louis-Billy Con[n] bout.

In his suit, O'Toole claimed Jacobs uttered "false and defamator[y] words" against the Congressmen who was "greatly injured in hi[s] good name and professional reputation." *6-28-46*

The suit said Jacobs charge[d] "that the plaintiff had attempte[d] to use his office to obtain and exto[rt] from the defendant tickets to th[e] sporting exhibition"—meaning th[e] Louis-Conn fight.

Moreover, the suit declared, Jacobs' remarks constituted a charg[e] that O'Toole "was using his offic[e] for personal revenge and selfis[h] motives." *New York, N.Y.*

O'Toole and Jacobs began throwing oral punches on June 20, th[e] day after the fight between Jo[e] and Billy. O'Toole sent a telegram to Edward Eagan, New York Boxing Commission chairman, asking for an investigation of the bout.

The Brooklynite called the fight a "national fraud and scandal" and said the purses of the principal[s] should be held up "in justice to those who were swindled."

Joe Louis Victory Is Hailed in Paris

The Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

PARIS — (ANP) — French fight fans, thousands of whom are ardently pro-Joe Louis stayed awake until 3 a.m. Paris time, to hear the trans-ocean broadcast of the Brown Bomber's defense of his world championship title in a bout with Billy Conn.

The eighth round victory, coming as no surprise to Parisians, brought forth such comments as: "It was a good fight, with unsurprising results," or "A good little man cannot beat a good big man." Shouts of "Vive Joe Louis" also could be heard in the streets and at sidewalk cafes after the bout. *Sat. 7-6-46*

Louis, who shares the same high esteem of the French press and public as does Josephine Baker, former American showgirl, was the subject of conversation at modest and elaborate places of amusements and in homes, for months before the fight.

During pre-fight days, the Conn-Louis tangle replaced the Big Four conference as a conversation topic here.

GOOD EVENING'S WORK

Louis Gets $625,916 For Kayoing Conn

By SID FEDER

NEW YORK, June 20—(AP)—Bomber Joe Louis, still king of the ring after 22 heavyweight championship defenses, had a check for $625,916.44 waiting at Promoter Mike Jacobs' office Thursday for knocking Billy Conn into retirement—but Bomber Joe went out to play golf instead of picking it up.

Billy wound up with just half as much money—$312,958.22—plus such assorted abrasions as a cut across the bridge of his nose and bruises under both eyes for having the roof caved in on him in the eighth round of Wednesday night's fuss at Yankee Stadium, after seven sloppy sessions that should have been accompanied by waltz music.

Billy picked up his check during the afternoon and confirmed his retirement plans, despite Jacobs' suggestion that he change his mind. He packed and left for a rest at Ocean City, N. J., with Mrs. Billy, who did not see the fight.

NO MORE FIGHTS SOON

The fight mob, meantime, cut the battle to bits and agreed: (a) That this was the last heavyweight title bout in a long time, not only because Joe plans to rest until next year, but also simply because there's no outstanding swatter left for him to fight;

(b) That Billy fought the Bomber directly opposite to the style he found so successful in facing Joe in their 1941 fight, and (c) that no one who gives Louis a clear shot at him is going to beat the Bomber.

There was considerable hilarity, too, along Bash Boulevard over the contention of Rep. O'Toole, Democrat, New York, in Washington, that the fight last night was a "stinkeroo" and should be investigated. Promoter Jacobs shrugged it off with the statement that O'Toole's office called him before the fight "and wanted complimentary tickets and I refused—so now comes the hollering."

To O'Toole's declaration that such things as the preparations for the fight, the agreements between Jacobs and two thumpers, the splitting of the purses and the "existence" of debts Billy and Joe owe Mike should be looked into, the older boulevardiers merely pointed out that two guys got into a ring and fought it out and the best one won. As for the debts, these same older hands argued, when a fellow needs cash, he borrows it from someone who has it.

SECOND LARGEST GATE

There were some followers of the gentle art of mashing noses who claimed Wednesday night's taffy pull was a financial "flop" because it didn't draw the $3,000,000 Jacobs originally anticipated. It was pointed out for them, however, that the $1,925,564 gross gate was the second largest in fistic history.

What's more, the 45,266 customers who pranced into Yankee Stadium last night paid considerably more than the 120,757 who chipped in to a pot of $1,895,733 to see Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney in their first fight in Philadelphia, hitherto the second largest financial lure in fistic history.

The net gate was $1,514,791.11 to which was added $50,000 for radio and television rights. Of this Joe got 40 per cent and Billy 20. They also will slice the same percentage from the motion picture money, which can not be estimated yet until distribution reports are in.

Conn had only admiration for Joe as "a great puncher who can knock your head off."

"I just didn't have my zing," he explained. "I had planned to make Joe run through the first eight rounds, then go to work on him in the ninth, figuring he'd be tired. But after that one right hand I hit him in the second round, I couldn't get started. Then he caught me first."

He disclosed what he whispered to Joe on two occasions in the ring last night, when they were at close quarters. In the first round, he had said something, and Louis half-grinned at it.

"What I said," Billy related, "was 'Take it easy, now, Joe; it's a long fight and we got 15 rounds to go.'"

In the eighth, shortly before the end, Billy, himself, was seen to laugh. On that occasion, he recalled, he whispered to Louis:

"What are you trying to do—kill me? We're pals, ain't we?"

Jacobs spent several minutes trying to get Conn to change his mind about hanging up his gloves for good. Finally, Billy winked and said, "Well, maybe, Uncle Mike."

But later he insisted he was through. And if he hadn't, his manager, Johnny Ray, with whom he makes up one of the closest manager-fighter teams in fistic history, said it for him.

"My Billy isn't going to get hurt," Ray asserted. "He got beat last night. Louis showed he was the better man. Now my Billy is finished with fighting."

Some Queries for Mike —And Guess His Answers

U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark squashed what might have been an amusing investigation when he said that the Department of Justice had no time, at present, to investigate the nation's baseball and boxing. The entire "official" aftermath to the alleged "fight" between Billy Conn and Joe Louis was bouncing from the offices of Mike Jacobs, in Madison Square Garden, to Washington's Congressional halls, where it ricocheted over into the Justice Department until stopped by Clark.

Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge was all for probing both boxing and baseball, as a result of the fiasco in Yankee Stadium last Wednesday night. After Clark appeared, however, a quick denial followed. In a way it would have been interesting to see Berge asking Uncle Mike Jacobs a few questions in court. A bit of comic relief for the present judicial calendar.

It would be interesting, for instance, to hear Mike reply to the following queries:

1. Are you a monopolist?

2. Do challengers for boxing titles have to sign contracts which put them under your management before being given championship fights?

3. Do you manage Joe Louis?

4. Do you take orders from Eddie Eagan's New York State Athletic Commission?

5. Does this Commission take orders from you?

6—Who is Mushky McGee?

We can just see Mike taking the stand, closely followed by his lawyer, Sol (I Object) Strauss. Mike cases the court, sizes up the crowd, and replies:

(1) What's a monopolist? You can't prove anything by me.

(2) What contracts? The Boxing Commission handles all the contracts. I ain't anything but a poor promoter. See my lawyer.

(3) A guy named Miles manages Joe Louis.

(4) The only orders I take are for tickets. We have some good $100 dolllar seats left over. Lots of them. What am I saying? Of course I take orders from Eddie Eagan. We take orders from anyone who sends a certified check.

(5) No, the Commission takes no orders from me.

(6) Mushky McGee is one of my brain trusters. See my lawyer.

• • •

The whole big investigation fizzled out on Friday, however, when the Dept. of Justice refused to join in the fun stirrred up by that pugnacious Irishman from Brooklyn, Rep. Donald L. O'Toole.

A spokesman for the Department, headed by Tom Clark, flatly denied the Justice Dept. had any intention of entering the controversy which started when O'Toole branded the Louis-Conn bout a "national fraud and scandal." No investigation is planned, he said.

O'Toole reiterated Friday his intention of filing a $100,000 libel suit against Promoter Jacobs. The Representative also renewed his demands that Boxing Comm. Chairman Eddie Eagan of New York launch an official inquiry.

O'Toole, in a 500-word statement, read into the Congressional Record called Eagan "A nice boy, but nice boys are just snickered at by men like Uncle Mike (Jacobs)."

The representative added that the Boxing Commission shared the responsibility with Jacobs, because it allowed the fight to go on without first forcing Louis and Conn to participate in tune-up fights.

"The worst feature of the actions of the Commission," said O'Toole, "was to sit themselves at the ringside and allow this fight to continue after the first two rounds."

Robert E. Hannegan, Postmaster General and member of the "working press" set at the big fight, added his thoughts for the day when he stated:

"I was very disappointed in the bout, but see no need of a boxing investigation." He added that every section of the U. S. A. should have an opportunity to see good, first-class fights. In this way we could develop better fighters and we would have better championship matches."

He Started It

Rep. Donald L. O'Toole
His nose is offended

Louis Not Averse To September Bout

NEW YORK, June 21—(UP)—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, hedging on a statement that he would not fight again this year, indicated today that he might meet either Tami Mauriello or Jersey Joe Wolcott in September.

Louis, who announced after knocking out Billy Conn that he would not fight again in 1946, said that future fights "are up to Mike Jacobs."

Jacobs said after the Conn bout that he would attempt to line up a September title fight with either Mauriello or Wolcott.

Louis, nursing a swollen left thumb, asserted that he "couldn't remember" touching gloves with Conn as they started the eighth—and what proved to be the last—round of their bout. Fighters usually do this when entering the last round and Joe had called the eighth as the round in which he would kayo Conn in their 15-round title go.

"If it's in the movies it must be so," the champion said when advised that the motion pictures showed this gesture.

Evading comment on charges by Representative Donald L. O'Toole, (D-N. Y.), that the fight was a fraud on the public, Louis remarked:

"What did he say?"

Joe disclosed that he had hurt his thumb mid-way in the Conn bout and said that his personal physician, Dr. Clarence Hogan, would put it in a splint to reduce the swelling.

O'Toole Carries Fight To House Floor

WASHINGTON, June 21—(UP)—Conflicting statements by high officials of the Justice Department tonight plunged into confusion Washington's latest feud involving the department, a member of Congress, New York Fight Promoter Mike Jacobs, and the Major League baseball system.

Representative Donald L. O'Toole, (D-N. Y.), who started the argument with a charge that last Wednesday's heavyweight fight between Joe Louis and Billy Conn was a "fraud" that ought to be investigated, carried his complaints to the House floor today.

Amid applause from his colleagues, O'Toole said the fight was "the greatest fraud ever perpetrated on the American people since the Mississippi bubble," and reiterated his intention to sue Jacobs for $100,000. The veteran New York promoter had aroused the congressman's ire by asserting that the whole affair had its beginning in O'Toole's unsuccessful efforts to get a couple of free tickets to the fight in a section reserved for $100 customers.

Remarks Made for Record

O'Toole then got unanimous consent of the House to extend his remarks in the Congressional Record. In the extended portion, he charged that boxing in New York "is controlled by a group of pickpockets, parolees, ex-convicts, professional gamblers and heisters."

"These are the habitues of Mr. Jacob's office—these are his intimates," he continued. "The natural result is the Conn-Louis fight, and many other aromatic (but not sweet smelling) ventures which mulcted the sporting public of millions of dollars. . .

"Eddie Eagan (New York State boxing commission chairman) is a nice boy, but nice boys are just snickered at by men like Uncle Mike and his mob. It is still not too late for Commissioner Eagan and his men to investigate not only the fight itself, but the entire industry in New York and to wipe out the vile, foul elements that are ruining a great competitive sport. Mr. Eagan, there is your duty. Have you the gumption to do it?"

O'Toole told a reporter before leaving for New York here Monday, he may drop in to see Attorney-General Tom C. Clark to talk over the possibility of a Federal investigation of the boxing business.

Probe Proposal Squelched

Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge stepped into the controversy today with a statement that he intended to make

an anti-trust inquiry into not only the field of professional boxing, but the major league baseball situation. He said he wanted to see how much power Jacobs holds over the ring world.

It wasn't long after Berge's announcement appeared in print before Clark issued a statement that no basis exists at this time for any investigation. Since Berge obviously could not undertake an inquiry without his superior's consent, this statement was taken to mean that the department planned no positive action, at least for the present.

Regardless of the department's attitude, O'Toole seemed determined to promote his own feud with Jacobs to the limit. He told the House he had asked Egan to investigate the Louis-Conn scrap and all the circumstances surrounding it.

What's Behind Rep. O'Toole's Charges?

Congressman Donald L. O'Toole, (D-NY), brought his ridiculous charges against the Louis-Conn fight onto the House floor yesterday, and called the heavyweight title bout "the greatest fraud ever perpetrated on the American people since the Mississippi bubble."

At the same time, Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge announced he intended to make an anti-trust inquiry into both professional baseball and boxing, and in the case of the latter, determine whether or not promoter Mike Jacobs constitutes a monopoly.

Congressman O'Toole, the reactionary Representative from Brooklyn, will be opposed by labor and the progressive forces in his campaign for reelection in the coming elections.

The Kings County American Labor Party yesterday declared that Rep. O'Toole's charges against the Louis-Conn fight is a cheap trick to gain the backing of profascist elements, who are anxious to use Joe Louis' easy win over Conn as a springboard for a smear campaign.

Berge's plans were apparently nipped, however, when a spokesman for Attorney General Tom C. Clark said there is no basis for such an investigation at the present time.

O'Toole didn't see the Louis-Conn fight, but has requested Boxing Commissioner Eddie Eagan to investigate all the circumstances surrounding it. Eagan's reply was that he couldn't understand such charges coming from a man who didn't even see the scrap.

It seems there is a lot of very, very bad and only a little good in this whole issue. The very bad factor is, certainly, the stupid accusation by O'Toole that the title bout was a "fraud." There was nothing phony about that fight, and Joe Louis has never been associated with anything phony in all his career as the cleanest, most sportsmanlike fighter in history.

Secondly, there's more than just a touch of anti-Semitic and anti-Negro by-play behind this whole thing. The campaign against Jacobs has been whipped up by the **Daily News** and **Daily Mirror, and in the** case of the former sheet, the anti-Jacobs campaign was launched in conjunction with **Jimmy Powers'** column, which smeared both Jackie Robinson, Joe Louis, and Mike Jacobs.

Now we have nothing against the idea of investigating Jacobs to see whether or not he constitutes a monopoly in boxing. We are well aware of the man's faults and are particularly incensed at the exorbitant prices he charged for the Louis-Conn bout.

But all of this has nothing to do with either the character of Joe Louis or Billy Conn. Their fight was not a fraud; there was nothing "phony" about it, and it looks from here as if Congressmen O'Toole is using himself as a tool for something which has far more implications than the supposed "question" about the title fight.—B. M.

Louis-Conn Winner Sought by Marshall

NEW YORK, June 19—(AP)—Everett Marshall, one-time claimant to the world heavyweight wrestling championship and now a successful farmer at La Junta, Colo., arrived today to challenge the winner of Joe Louis-Billy Conn fight to a mixed match.

"I have $100,000 that says I can pin either Louis or Conn before they knock me out," Marshall said.

He added that he intended to retire from big-time wrestling soon and wanted the mixed event held sometime this Fall.

So-fisticated Statesman

The fitness of Joe Louis, Esq., to serve a Detroit district in congress was well and quickly established last Wednesday night.

COULD HAVE GOT UP?

Billy Conn's Behavior On Floor Is Assailed

By DAVIS J. WALSH

NEW YORK, June 21—(INS)—Repercussions of a highly stimulating nature came today in the wake of the Louis-Conn $1,925,564 heavyweight championship promotion—the most provocative of which was New York Congressman O'Toole's threat to sue Mike Jacobs for libel and have his fight tickets barred from the mails.

O'Toole called Wednesday night's fight a "stinkeroo," and accused Jacobs of perpetrating a "terrific fraud," and proposed to bring immediate action from the floor of the House against the monopolist of plug-ugly plaza. He saw the fight by television.

The Congressman's charges brought immediate, terse and irascible comment from Jacobs, thusly:

"Tell that guy to stop bothering me for tickets."

Jacobs alleged that O'Toole tried to get two complimentary tickets from him Wednesday.

The Jacobs retort scornfully brought quick rebuttal from the Congressman in Washington, to-wit: "I will sue Jacobs for $100,000 for criminal libel. I never asked him for tickets."

The battle of words did not stop there. Jacobs contributed a caustic sub-rebuttal, namely: "I'm not worried. I'm going to sue him, too."

SMILES HAPPILY

Meanwhile, Conn's behavior while on the floor was surprisingly assailed by a New York sports editor, who wrote a scathing tirade in which the beaten fighter was represented as sitting on his haunches and smiling very happily about something during Referee Joseph's 10-count. And some of the 45,000-odd who paid from $100 down to see the affair had comments equally acid.

They referred to it as a "frost," and they weren't talking about the unseasonably cool weather.

Gene Tunney said the fight was "one of the worst I've ever seen," adding, "John Public took it on the chin again."

But Promoter Jacobs imperturbably proceeded with the business of paying off both principals, starting negotiations for another Louis fight in September.

Mike also released the figures on the fight payoff. Louis received $625,600 for his purse, roughly 40 percent of the net receipts. The beaten Conn, still maintaining that Wednesday night's fight was his last, was paid $312,800, or 20 percent, by way of valedictory.

PICTURES POOR

The net receipts, including $50,000 for radio and television rights, were announced as totaling $1,564,000. This figure didn't include whatever revenues were to accrue from motion picture presentations of the fight, not deemed of high commercial value because of the comparative lack of action, preceding the eighth-round knockout climax.

But the lack of sucker-appeal to the paying witnesses and in the films yet to be exhibited seemed not too consistent with the thinly veiled charges of the New York sports editor who presented this highly individual account of the knockout:

"He sat there . . . and stared straight at your reporter. . . . He (Conn) smiled and continued to sit until Referee Joseph tolled the full count."

To make the confusion general, a photograph, accompanying the story in question, shows Joseph's arm-spread signal for the "out," with Conn apparently trying to push himself erect with one knee and the tips of his gloves.

TYPICAL DAY AFTER

In order words, it was the typical day-after potpouri, featuring acrimony, controversy and conflicting statements, not too many of them entirely credible.

Not to be confounded in any way with the latter, of course, was the American Broadcasting Company's announcement that 45,000,000 people had heard the fight broadcast, a new record for a single network. More than 100,000 others saw NBC's television broadcast.

LOUIS AT JACOBS' OFFICE

Talk of Mauriello Bout Put Off —Joe's Thumb in a Splint

Joe Lousi visited the offices of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club for a couple of hours yesterday. The champion, as usual, had little to say, but his business manager, Marshall Miles, revealed that there would be no announcement relative to a probable fight with Tami Mauriello until Monday.

Louis' left thumb showed signs of swelling, and his physician, Clarence Hogans, applied a splint to it. Hogans explained that there was no break and Louis said that he could not recall when he delivered the punch that caused the swelling. The Brown Bomber will take things easy around New York for the next few days.

When asked what his reaction was to the adverse comments on his fight with Billy Conn last Wednesday, the champion replied, "hat did he have to say?" Promoter Mike Jacobs, questioned on the same matter, refused to comment.

For Whom The Bell Tolled

The first big postwar prizefight wasn't what most folks hoped it would be. Those of us who stayed at home to listen to it on the radio were mighty sorry for the ringsiders. For the hundred bucks apiece they paid for their seats they got almost as little as the man who bought the Brooklyn Bridge. The fight was dull from start to finish. Afterwards Billy Conn said, "I knew I was making a stinking fight." The fight fans knew it after the first round.

Joe Louis may be slower than he was five years ago, but he hasn't lost his power-punch. Perhaps there is less of the steel spring in his legs but there is just as much of the iron in his fists. "He can run," said Joe before the fight, "but he can't hide." It took Joe a little while to catch up with him; when he did, in the eighth round, he went to work like a skilled artisan, and Billy went to sleep. It was as simple as that.

So Joe is still the champion; he still clutches in his big hands the greatest prize that the ring game has to give. What he will do with it now no one, not even Joe himself, seems to know. There isn't another contender with class anywhere in the world. Louis could retire undefeated as Gene Tunney did, but we understand that Joe, in spite of the huge purses he has won, is almost broke. It's likely that he'll fight again, possibly in the Autumn, but who his opponent will be remains a mystery. Not a single man has developed into the classy heavyweight group in the years since before the war. In spite of all the work the armed forces did with boxing no one has come out of the services, as Tunney did in the twenties, who can stand against Joe. But we have faith enough in Mike Jacobs' ballyhoo methods to believe that someone will be built into the gargantuan proportions necessary before too long. We'll hear of this boy or that coming out of the ranks of the unknowns or the has-beens with all the qualifications necessary to build up another million-dollar gate. The propaganda of the sports page can do it, even if nature can't. While there is loose money lying around, canny old Mike will get his share.

The Louis-Conn Fight Broadcast

How could WHAS and WAVE possibly have failed to broadcast the Louis-Conn fight? Unfortunately a thunderstorm here kept us from getting the fight tuned in.

Both WHAS and WAVE were coming in splendidly despite the static, but WINN is a short-length station, so we were unable to get that station. We finally did get a station at Fort Wayne, Ind., but it could certainly have been better.

It seems that being the first great fight in four long years, it should have been carried by either the National or Columbia nationwide hook-up. Let's hope this doesn't happen again.

Cloverport, Ky. AN IRATE BOXING FAN.

The American Broadcasting Company with which WINN is affiliated had the exclusive rights to broadcast the Louis-Conn fight.—(Editor.

THE CHAMPION FINDS RELAXATION IN A ROUND OF GOLF

Joe Louis playing at Grassy Sprain course in Yonkers yesterday — Associated Press

CALLS BOUT 'FRAUD,' ASKS INVESTIGATION

Rep. O'Toole Wires Eagan, but Boxing Head Sees No Need for Any Official Action

FALL TITLE FIGHT LOOMS

Jacobs to Consider Matching Louis With Mauriello—Conn Firm on His Retirement

By JAMES P. DAWSON

In his long and brilliant career Joe Louis has delivered many damaging punches against the heavyweights he encountered on his climb to the top and in the twenty-two successful defenses he has made of the world heavyweight title. But none has had such widespread effect as the flurry of lefts and rights with which he knocked out Billy Conn, Pittsburgh challenger, Wednesday night in the Yankee Stadium.

The paralyzing lefts and rights to the head, face and jaw which ended the battle not only toppled Conn but knocked the Pittsburgher right out of ring competition, made a memory of the $100 ringside admission charged and left Louis practically bereft of available opposition. They touched off a Washington cry for an investigation of the heavyweight title bout and revised Promoter Mike Jacobs' estimate of the advantages of the raised ringside seat section he introduced on such an elaborate scale for the Stadium contest.

Text of Telegram

The demand for an investigation came from Representative Donald L. O'Toole, Democrat, of New York. In a telegram yesterday to Chairman Eddie Eagan of the State Athletic Commission, charging the public had been "swindled," O'Toole said:

"In justice to those who were swindled at last night's Louis-Conn fight the State Athletic Commission should hold up the purses of both fighters pending investigation. This investigation should cover the preparations made for the fight, the agreements made between Jacobs, the fighters and others, the actual splitting of the purses and the existence of any debts on the part of the fighters to Jacobs.

"This investigation should further cover the amount of control that Jacobs has not only over Conn and Louis but also over the entire boxing industry in the United States. One more fraud such as last night's and boxing will be ruined in the United States for many years to come. It is the duty of the Commission to protect the public and this can only be achieved by an investigation such as I suggest."

Chairman Eagan said he saw no necessity for an official investigation. He emphasized there was nothing dishonest about the battle and that the rules and regulations of the State Athletic Commission had been carefully observed in all details. "Of course it was a disappointing bout," said Eagan. "It was dull and lacked action. But the bout always had that tense element that comes with not knowing when thunder will strike, and the boxers certainly fought their best according to the plans with which they entered the ring."

Dismisses the Criticism

Promoter Jacobs dismissed Representative O'Toole's criticism with the brief statement: "I turned that guy down for tickets and he's sore."

Conn was positive yesterday in his announced intention to quit the ring. He announced his retirement in the dressing room Wednesday night, but there was a disposition to accept the statement at the time merely as the utterance of a fighter crushed in defeat.

However, Billy, his eyes cut and discolored and the bridge of his nose bruised, repeated the announcement in Promoter Jacobs' office, after having slept on the matter overnight.

"I am through and that is definite," said Conn. "I know I could go on and make some money fighting some of these other fellows who are around now and I could beat them all. Indeed, none of them could lay a glove on me. But there's no sense to going on when you realize you don't have your old pep, and that's what's wrong with me.

"I have no excuses to offer. Louis is a great fighter. He brought me to attention with a right-hand crack on the head for the first damaging blow, and there is little I remember about the knockout punches. I recall trying to 'kid' him in one of the rounds when I said to him: 'Hey, slow it down a bit. That's no way to treat your old pal, Willie. This is a fifteen-round thing, you know.' That was on the ropes. He had been banging me with that left jab, and some of them hurt, too.

Ashamed of Showing

"I felt fine entering the ring. I was trained properly for the fight. But so many people tell you what you must do and how to fight him that you get all confused. I'm terribly sorry about the poor fight I put up. I honestly feel ashamed to take the money for that kind of thing. But I had a plan to stay in there as long as I could, trying to tire him without being hurt myself. That punch he landed early in the eighth, the right that split my eye, helped knock that plan into a cocked hat.

"I resent some of the comment that has reached me to the effect some people think I quit. I'm not a quitter. I've never been charged with that. I'd sooner go down being hit with a baseball bat in a fight than quit. It's just a tough break that I didn't have it. That's what's convincing me I should retire now and leave the ring to others. I have no desire to let suckers take punches at me."

Louis was not around the boxing beat. The conquering champion was enjoying a workout on the golf links for which he has been craving since he started the long training grind that led up to the Stadium ring. He has to polish up his strokes for a tournament he has entered.

Marshall Miles, Louis' business manager, was a visitor to Jacobs' office and declared, Louis' statement to the contrary notwithstanding, that the heavyweight titleholder probably will place the crown on the line in a fall bout. Jacobs echoed this sentiment.

The financial statement revealed a gross gate of $1,925,564, paid by 45,266 Wednesday night. This crowd total does not include the complimentary, working press, usher, guide and director tickets distributed. The net gate was announced as $1,514,000, to which is added $50,000 as the share of the motion picture and television rights diverted to the fighters. Champion and challenger split 60 per cent of the receipts, Louis collecting 40 per cent and Conn 20.

Louis' Largest Purse

Louis' share amounted to $625,196, the largest purse the titleholder has ever collected, it was announced. Conn's share, $312,958, likewise was his largest purse. An item of $50,000 for the distribution rights to the motion pictures placed the gate above the $2,000,000 mark. After expenses of about $300,000 are deducted, it is estimated Promoter Jacobs will count

Among the complex developments in the wake of the battle was a disposition in some quarters to make capital of a radio report that Louis and Conn touched gloves as the eighth round started. Many critics at the ringside missed this, because of the angle of the fighters' bodies at the time. However, it is not unprecedented, or even an unusual occurrence, since it quite often happens as a round starts, with the rivals starting and restraining simultaneous leads and accidentally touching gloves.

Criticism was general, however, over the $100 ringside charge and the set-up from which observers viewed the bout at this price. Occupants of the rear rows on the raised sections, the "raised ringside" that went from a start of forty inches to a height of seven feet, could see only the upper portions of the fighters bodies, it was claimed. In the first reaction to this discovery Promoter Jacobs said he plans, when lumber is available, to construct a pitched ringside section in which the seats will be raised gradually from the first row, back to an elevation which will eliminate all seats in the permanent lower stands and cut capacity in the Stadium to about 60,000.

he promoter took as an impulsive declaration Louis' assertion that he would not fight again this year. he champion made this statement a week ago in training and in his dressing room immediately after the battle.

Will Plan Fall Match

Jacobs said he will be prepared within a day or so to give serious attention to a September bout between Louis and Tami Mauriello, Bronx heavyweight who is among the foremost in Louis' diminishing ranks of rivals. If plans for this bout collapse, Jacobs will seek a battle between Mauriello and Jersey Joe Wolcott, the winner to meet Louis.

Mannie Seamon, veteran handler of fighters who directed the training of Louis, revealed that he and the champion a week ago mapped out exactly the kind of battle Louis would wage. "We decided use of a left jab would confuse Conn, who would be expecting Joe to rush out and try for an early finish," said Seamon. "Jabbing also would knock some of the confidence out of Conn, because Louis' jabs have power behind them. The idea then was to connect with a right-hand shot at the first opportunity, and that is exactly what Joe did. Louis was in grand shape and he never was hurt during the bout."

Louis plans to remain in the city until next week. He is pledged to referee some bouts in Buffalo next Wednesday at a benefit for the late Dave Mason, a boxer who died some time ago following a fight. The following night in Kingston the champion will referee bouts arranged in the interests of a church fund. By that time decision is expected on whether the champion will fight again in the fall, and he can make his plans accordingly.

Veteran followers of boxing were agreed yesterday that Conn fought exactly the type of battle calculated to bring him the best results. The challenger regretted he didn't go out with the opening bell, slugging with Louis in a bid for a knockout or to be knocked out.

The ruinous possibilities of such a plan were regarded as obvious. There could be only one answer—a quick Louis knockout victory.

Taking the tack he did, Conn leveled off for a long pull, and was leveled in the process. He was trying to fight the fight he flashed in 1941 when he outpointed Louis through twelve rounds before the thunder of [illegible]'s fists crashed on him in the thirteenth. That the challenger didn't quite succeed in this was due more to the excellence of Louis' jabbing than to the fighting shortcomings of the Pittsburgher.

With Conn boxing defensively, in full retreat practically all the time, and Louis shuffling forward steadily, waiting for and trying to force the opening he sought for a crushing blow, it was inevitable the battle should lack some of the sparkle and thrill of their 1941 meeting. The champion could not afford to take reckless chances against a foeman who staggered him in the twelfth round of their first battle. Conn could not afford carelessly to expose himself to the blows which laid him low in the thirteenth round of the 1941 clash.

JOE LOUIS GOOD FOR TEN YEARS

The fact that Joe Louis defeated challenger Billy Conn after chasing him for six rounds is not news, but why experts say Joe is good for ten more years as king of the heavyweights is interesting.

Here is their reason: Joe doesn't smoke, drink or dissipate. He does not allow anything to upset him emotionally. He loves to fight—he lives to fight and he learned in the defeat he suffered when he first met Max Schmeling that he had obeyed his trainers' order to the letter if he expected to win as a fighter. Old man Blackburn had insisted that he do a lot of road work but Joe substituted golf and tennis and got somewhat bull-headed so the report goes. So when Schmelling beat him he recognized that Blackburn knows his onions.

Blackburn was roundly criticized for sayin that Joe's lost to Max was the best thing which could have happened to Joe. Later when Joe cut Max down Blackburn explained why he had made the statement. Defeated by Max made Joe submit to discipline and training to the end that his legs might maintain the highest degree of agility and his fist that atomic punch.

Joe has held the championship longer than all Champs put together.

Folk who seem to know about some of the things Joe like and dislikes says, Joe got mad as usual when Conn in the sixth round made the grave mistake of hitting Joe in the mouth. They say it makes Joe Mad when he is hit in the mouth.

Joe Louis' Record

Born May 13, 1914, Lexington, Ala. Weight, 208 lbs., Height 6 ft. 1½ in. Trainer, Marty Seaman

1934		
July 4—Jack Kracken, Chicago	KO	1
July 11—Willie Davis, Chicago	KO	3
July 29—Larry Udell, Chicago	KO	2
Aug. 13—Jack Kranz, Chicago	W	6
Aug. 27—Buck Everett, Chicago	KO	2
Sept. 11—Alex Borchuck, Detroit	KO	4
Sept. 25—Adolph Walter, Chicago	W	10
Oct. 24—Art Sykes, Chicago	KO	8
Oct. 30—Jack O'Dowd, Detroit	KO	2
Nov. 14—Stanley Poreda, Chicago	KO	1
Nov. 30—Charley Massere, Chi.	KO	3
Dec. 14—Lee Ramage, Chicago	KO	8
1935		
Jan. 4—Patsy Perroni, [illegible]	W	10
Jan. 11—Hans Birkie, Pittsburgh	KO	10
Feb. 1—Lee Ramage, Los Angeles	KO	2
Mar. 8—"Red" Barry (San Fran.)	KO	3
Mar. 28—Natie Brown, Detroit	W	10
April 13—Ray Lazer, Chicago	KO	3
April 24—Biff Benton, Dayton	KO	3
April 27—Roscoe Toles, Flint	KO	3
May 3—Willie Davis, Peoria	KO	2
May 5—Gene Stanton, Kalamazoo	KO	3
June 25—Primo Carnera, N. Y.	KO	6
Aug. 7—Ling Levinsky, Chicago	KO	1
Sept. 24—Max Baer, New York	KO	4
Dec. 13—Paulino Uzcudum, N. Y.	KO	4
1936		
Jan. 17—Charlie Retzloff, Chicago	KO	1
June 17—Max Schmeling, N. Y.	KO by	12
Aug. 17—Jack Sharkey, N. Y.	KO	3
Sept. 22—Al Ettore, Philadelphia	KO	5
Oct. 9—Jorge Bressica, N. Y.	KO	3
Dec. 14—Eddie Simms, Cleve.	KO	1
1937		
Jan. 11—Stanley Ketcnell, Buffalo	KO	2
Jan 27—Bob Pastor, New York	W	10
Feb. 17—Natie Brown, Kan. City	KO	4
June 22—J. J. Braddock, Chicago	KO	8
(Won the Heavyweight Championship of the World)		
Aug. 30—*Tommy Farr, N. Y. (Title)	W	15
1938		
Feb. 23—*Nathan Mann, N. Y.	KO	3
April 1—*Harry Thomas, Chicago	KO	5
June 22—Max Schmeling, N. Y.	KO	1
1939		
Jan. 25—*J. H. Lewis, N. Y.	KO	1
April 17—*Jack Roper, L. A.	KO	1
June 28—*Tony Galenta, N. Y.	KO	4
Sept. 20—*Bob Pastor, Detroit	KO	11
1940		
Feb. 8—*Arturo Godoy, N. Y.	W	15
Mar. 29—Johnny Paycheck, N. Y.	KO	2
June 20—*Auturo Godoy, N. Y.	KO	8
Dec. 16—*Al McCoy, Boston	KO	6
1941		
Jan. 31—*Red Burman, N. Y.	KO	5
Feb. 17—*Gus Doraczio, Phil.	KO	2
Mar. 21—Abe Simon, Detroit	KO	13
April 8—*Tony Musto, St. Louis	KO	9
May 23—*Buddy Baer, Wash. D. C.	W Disq.	7
June 18—*Billy Conn, N. Y.	KO	13
July 11—George Giambostiani, L. A. (exhibition 4)		
1942		
Jan. 9—Buddy Baer, N. Y. (Donated Purse to Naval Relief)	KO	1
Mar. 27—Abe Simon, New York (Donated Purse to Army Relief)	KO	6
June 5—George Hamilton, Ft. Nicholson (exh. 6)		
JOINED ARMY		

* Indicates Title Bouts

Fight Gate Is Short of Record

By SID FEDER

YANKEE STADIUM, New York June 19—(AP)—Cloudy skies, which appeared to be gradually clearing, welcomed the thousands pouring into this spacious ball park tonight to see the most talked of sports event in history—the return heavyweight title bout between Champion Joe Louis and Billy Conn.

There was a drop or two of rain at 7 p. m. (EDT), just three hours before scheduled post time for the Brown Bomber's 22nd defense of fistiana's richest bauble, and then a mild breeze blowing in from the northwest scattered the darker clouds and at 6:45 the sun peeked out mildly over the 3,000 or so early arrivals in the bleachers.

At that time, Promoter Mike Jacobs gave up officially not only on his hopes of the first $3,000,000 gate in history, but also on his hopes for a new record "take" eclipsing the $2,658,660 lured by Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney in their return match in Chicago 19 years ago.

"All I'll say now," Uncle Mike announced two and one-half hours before post time for the big fight and an hour before the first preliminary, "is that we'll have 70,000 people and a gate of more than $2,000,000."

The reserved seat-holders in this long grandstand, which extends from right-center field, around back of home plate and on out to the left-field foul line, were slow arriving. By 7:30 less than 5,000 were in the covered sections.

At that time, the ball park, which had opened its gates at 10 a. m., contained some 10,000 cash customers, sprinkled through the stands, the bleachers and the field sections, which were constructed by Architect Lionel Levy on a brand-new principle employing all aluminum trusses, foundations and stairways.

First of the former heavyweight titleholders to put in an appearance was Jack Sharkey, who won the crown from Max Schmeling and lost it Primo Carnera.

At 7:45, James Bruno, Chief Deputy of the New York State Athletic Commission, and Nat Rogers, Promoter Jacobs' matchmaker, climbed onto the apron of the ring to examine the ropes and corners.

Shortly afterward, Johnny Ray, Conn's Manager, and Milt Jaffe, his Pittsburgh associate, came down to look over the padding under the ring canvas. After the last Louis-Conn tussle in 1941, when Joe knocked Billy out in 13 rounds, there was some talk that extra padding had been used to slow Conn's speed down. After giving it the double-O tonight, feeling it with both hands, Ray said, "It's well stuffed."

The 25-pound difference between the two battlers—207 for Louis to 182 for Conn—caused the betting odds to mount in Joe's favor throughout the day, and at 8 p. m., half an hour before the first preliminary, the price was reported as high as 1 to 3½, with the Bomber as the choice.

Police were spread throughout the Stadium, augmented by probationary patrolmen from the New York Police Academy, the usual private police and dozens of Army MP's.

The two fighters were in their dressing rooms by 8 p. m. They are using the old baseball locker rooms for this fight, with Billy in the Yankees former quarters and the champion in the one-time visitors' room.

DETROIT'S AMBASSADOR

Last week Detroit's best known citizen, with the possible exception of Henry Ford, made headlines in newspapers across the world, in every country and in every language. Joe had done it again. The tough-talking Mr. Conn had succumbed, as others before him, to the determined will of the soft-spoken champion of the world.

The defeat of Mr. Conn did not come as a great surprise, for Joe had knocked him out before and there was every reason to believe he could and would do it again. The big news was not the victory so much as the manner in which that victory was achieved. There was a nobility in Joe's performance, a quality which appeals to that sense of decency in civilized men.

Joe Louis has become the greatest symbol of fair play and sportsmanship our country has ever known. He would not stoop to conquer. He refused to take advantage of the ill fortune of his adversary. He spurns the mean advantage. Further there is no ostentation in his attitude. His high sense of honor is a natural quality and he acts upon it in a split-second, without deliberation or forethought.

We believe that our educators in our great universities who shape the patterns of our nation's educational system should make a project out of Joe Louis. They should study the elements that combined and fused to give his mind that noble cast. They should try to capture the secret of his simple honor. Then their findings should be translated into a program that could be practically applied to the children of our land. Then this program could be recommended to the United Nations for adoption, with no nation having the right to veto it.

Until such time we suggest that our government employ Joe as an ambassador to the world at large. We would have him accompany Jimmy Byrnes to Paris. He would have him sit with Barney Baruch on the Atomic Commission. We would have him at the side of President Truman at the next conference of the Big Three. We would have him figure in all these high councils of state because the world needs whatever it is that makes Joe, even in the heat and excitement of battle, the soul of honor.

JACOBS' MOTION IS DENIED

Court Rules a Trial Necessary in O'Toole Slander Action

Supreme Court Justice Samuel H. Hofstadter ruled yesterday that a trial was necessary in a $200,000 slander and libel action brought against Michael S. (Mike) Jacobs, fight promoter, by Representative Donald L. O'Toole (Democrat, of New York).

The action grew out of alleged defamatory words Jacobs uttered, Representative O'Toole said in his complaint, after the Congressman had criticized Jacobs' conduct of the Joe Lous-Billy Conn fight which took place on June 20.

In denying a motion by Jacobs to dismiss the action, Justice Hofstadter said that "the utterances ascribed are susceptible of a slanderous and libelous meaning."

63c 1946 Joe Louis (General)

Louis Takes 'Jabs'—And Likes It

The Courier-Journal

By SID FEDER.

New York, Oct. 8 (AP)—A couple of the sharpest "jabbers" around these parts worked out on Joe Louis today until he was done to a neat turn. And no one was knocked out. Louisville, Ky. Wed. 10-9-46

This was largely because the jabs, in this case, were all verbal, and the "jabbers" were Tex O'Rourke, who once managed Jess Willard, and Jimmy Walker, who once "managed" New York City. Joe, as the party of the third part, was the "fall guy" at the monthly frolic of the circus Saints and Sinners, a charitable organization which was founded originally to help needy circus performers and since then has spread its "charity from fun" over various fields, as wide apart as cancer research and the Boy Scouts.

Joe was the first Negro ever to be initiated as the "fall guy." Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney were previous heavyweight champions to go through the mill. Each month, some leading citizen from government, business, or entertainment is thus designated.

Tex and Jimmy weren't nearly as rough on Joe as they have been on past victims. "That's because Louis is sitting on the same stage with us—very close—and there's no use tempting fate," Tex explained.

REVIEWS LIFE

O'Rourke reviewed Joe's life from its start in the Alabama cotton fields. He got to the point where the Bomber was wearing a hand-me-down pair of pants at one stage.

"One of his boyhood friends told me," Tex reported, "that the pants legs didn't come down nearly far enough—that they left three inches of brown showing."

"You mean three inches of his socks?" Tex inquired of the friend.

"Socks?—what socks?" was the reply.

One of the straight men in the show learning that Walker had visited Joe's new Harlem restaurant "on opening night," asked if the former mayor had "recovered yet."

"Well hardly," Jimmy countered. "It wasn't on the cuff."

Joe responded with "I've been honored often before—but today I am real honored." Then he grinned at O'Rourke and Walker.

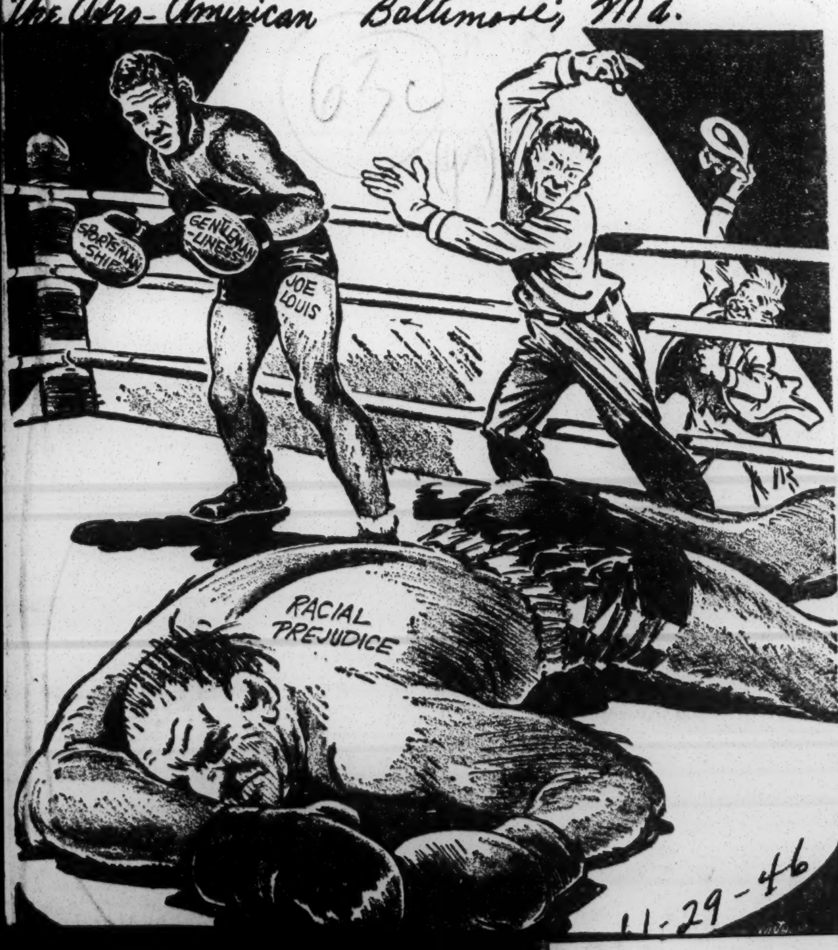
"I wanna say, the knockdowns you fellows made me take didn't get me mad at all."

Daily Worker Tues. 7-30-46 New York, N.Y. 63c

Vets Honor Champ: **Joe Louis and his mother, Mrs. Lily Brooks, are honored at a testimonial dinner given by the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America. Louis is honorary national commander of the organization. In its testimonial, UNAVA leaders told the champion "our purpose is to deliver the knockout punch to injustice and intolerance. We will defend the rights of veterans with the same courage and determination with which you defended your title."**

His Greatest Victory

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.



11-29-46

About Joe Louis' Mother, a Fighter Too

By Lester Rodney Daily Worker

Out of Deteoit comes the news that Joe Louis' mother, Mrs. Lily Brooks, is the main speaker at an open air rally to fight the threatened eviction of 22 Negro famliies from a "Whitman Avenue" neighborhood.

It might have come as a surprise for many people, not because they wouldn't expect Joe Louis' mother to be a militant fighter against discrimination, but merely because she has been so little known and written about. So while filling this sports space for day-offing Bill Mardo, I thought it might be of some reader interest to tell something of the kind of woman Mrs. Brooks is, through a visit I had with her some years ago in Detroit after Joe knocked out Bob Pastor at Briggs Stadium. Here is the story of that visit in part:

The first thing that hits the eye as you walk into the pleasant home of Mrs. Lily Brooks at 2100 McDougal St. in Detroit is a striking drawing of her smiling world heavyweight championship son on the mantle. "To my mother with love," is the inscription.

Mrs. Brooks settled back in a chair after the introductions. "I'm glad this fight's over. I'm always worried about Joe's getting hurt. Of course I know he's equipped to take care of himself—very well equipped—but I guess a mother just has to worry about her son."

Joe Louis' mother is a soft spoken middle aged woman with a fine sensitive face, a face bearing the lines that any mother who brought up eight children through the poverty of an Alabama cotton plantation hut and the Detroit slums must have.

"Then you didn't approve when Joe first started fighting as an amateur?" I asked. New York, N.Y.

She laughed. "No, I thought fighting was a pretty awful thing. I wanted him to be a musician, and gave him a violin lesson once in a while. You know, Joe is very much interested in music. But he never gave that fiddle much attention. I guess he knew he could go further in fighting. I guess he was right at that."

What kind of a youngster was Joe? Did he have any street fights? 7-1-46

"No, Joe was a good boy, as good as any, that is. Not a sissy. He could go only to the seventh grade in school because he had to go to work. We had a hard time of it after moving up from Alabama.

"Joe was about 12 when we left the plantation and came to Detroit. He began to work on an ice wagon when he left school at 14. Then later when he was 16 he got a job at the Briggs factory, then at Fords." New York, New York

I asked Mrs. Brooks if she ever had occasion to spank Joe when he was little. She smiled at the memory. **"I guess I hold a few decisions over him at that!"**

There was a copy of a Detroit paper open at a picture of Joe reclining on the lawn at his training camp. "Some papers still make a habit of [illegible] show Joe as lazy," I said, "How do you feel about that?"

Joe's [illegible] smiled almost reproachfully. **"You must know the answer to that,"** she said, **"How could anyone be lazy and get to be best in the world at what he starts out to do?**

"You know, the only time Joe used to get discouraged about himself was when he couldn't find time to go to the gymnasium and train and learn, because of his job. And something else. Maybe it's just because I'm his mother I think so, but I'm pretty certain that if he had wanted to do something else beside fighting, and went into it the same way, he'd get to be mighty good at that too."

"Even with the violin?" 7-1-46

"Even with the violin," she said, and added a little wistfully, **"Sometimes I still wish he'd not become a fighter."**

"But you must pretty proud of his success, even at the fighting you don't like."

"Proud? Why I should say. I keep all his clippings. Whenever Joe finishes a fight he often comes here to stay a few days with Marva (Joe's ex-wife) and we go over the clippings together."

"Mrs. Brooks, after what fight would you say Joe seemed the happiest?"

"Oh, that second Schemling fight. He got the biggest kick out of that one, even more than winning the championship—if that was

possible."

"Another impression the papers often try to give is that Joe isn't interested much in anything besides fighting, social conditions, discrimination," I began.

Again Joe Louis' mother smiled softly.

"Of course he's interested in things besides fighting. Joe was brought up in a family of eight poor children in miserable conditions. He had to leave school. He saw what happened to his hopeful young friends. Do you think he'd ever forget that? or that he doesn't know other boys like him have a hard time of it? You see, he rushes around so much, training and fighting and all, that he doesn't get around to talking much about such things. Like I said, he concentrates. But I know he gives very liberally and would do what he could. My Lord, of course he knows!" (Joe has proven that many times over since).

She mentioned that Joe and Marva went to the Baptist Church with her on occasions and that the Pastor was one of the many fighting for better housing for Detroit's Harlem and against the police brutality prevalent at that time. Then she added mildly, "of course, even though Joe goes to church, I wouldn't say that he prays before he fights. I guess he found out that the Lord helps those who hit the hardest."

That's Mrs. Lily Brooks, proud mother of Joe Louis, speaker tonight against discrimination. He's proud of her too.

BEHIND THE SCENES

WITH RALPH MATTHEWS

AFRO National Bureau

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

AFTER THOUGHTS on the Louis-Conn fight I don't think any of the sports boys played up the fact that in addition to being a great fighter Joe is also a great showman with the blood of Williams and Walker, Cole and Johnson, Whitney and Tutt and Sissle and Blake flowing through his veins.

Saturday 7-6-46

These were all great showmen and Joe has brought their flare for dressing the part to the prize ring.

Take Joe's little trick of entering the ring with his head wrapped in a huge Turkish towel. There's a touch of the dramatic in this simple little gesture. The towel probably really isn't needed at all any more than spats in the summer time.

Afro-American

Then when he strips off his blue robe—does Joe stand before us in his working clothes? Not at all—under this he wears a white silkish dressing robe while he puts on the gloves. It's just for a fleeting second, but it's impressive.

7-6-46 Sat.

Milking the Audience

Old actors call this milking the audience. It adds to the suspense like a strip tease. Then off comes the towel, off comes the white robe, Joe's huge muscles glisten under the lights, there's the bell—the fight's on.

Joe Louis New Boss Of Cafe Rhumboogie

Defender

Chicago, Ill.

World's Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis started another business venture last week, when he became sole owner of the Rhumboogie Cafe on Chicago's South Side.

Sat. 12-7-46

The Brown Bomber is reported to have paid $12,000 for the night spot to Charlie Glenn, former owner. Since the cafe which has been known as Swingland and Dave's Cafe, in former years opened in 1942, the champ has been a rumored silent partner. Louis actually had advanced Glenn the money with which the business was started, a loan long since repaid, according to the former owner. A good-will arrangement kept the champ's brother, Pat Brooks, on the payroll.

Appeared As Entertainer

The champ generally made regular appearances at the night spot on his visits to Chicago. At one time he appeared there for two weeks in an entertainer's role.

Under the new arrangement, the club will be run by Leonard Reed, a close friend to Louis, who was a partner in the act when Louis appeared at the Rhumboogie last season. This marks the second Louis-Reed business venture. The first was in the Joe Louis Chicken Shack in Detroit.

Defender

Louis sharp in Mexicali exhibition

Tribune
Los Angeles, Calif.
Sat. 11-30-46

MEXICALI, Mex.—Heavyweight champion Joe Louis, with 20 pounds overlaying his regular fighting weight, breezed through four brisk rounds with Perk Daniels last Sunday at an ill-advised exhibition promotion here at the bull ring.

The 5,000 windblown and chilly fans got a little bloodthirsty near the end of the show and yelled for a knockdown, at least. Louis obliged them with a spurt at half-speed, and rifled in a left hook and a right cross which dropped Daniels to one knee for a no-count. And then Joe eased up again. Guest-refereeing was California Jackie Wilson, state welterweight champion and sidekick of Louis' while they were doing their hitches in the Army and giving boxing exhibitions over the U.S., Alaskan, and European theaters.

The best Wilson would give the champion was a draw. But he was kidding. Joe's sizzling left kept Daniels respectfully on the run all four rounds. And it was obvious that the champion could have stowed Daniels away at will.

The promoters took the beating of the day. While Louis pocketed his $10,000 guarantee, the promoters had to make up the difference between that and the $8,000 gate. Only explanation for the flop was that several days before the show, a rumor started that Louis wasn't going to show.

South Analyzed at Louis Dinner

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—New political, economic and social developments in the South were analyzed by three outstanding Southerners at a dinner held in honor of Joe Louis here recently, sponsored by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

Sat. 12-21-46

The program featured Clark Foreman, Conference president; Jennings Perry, former editor of the Nashville Tennessean and current PM columnist, and Aubrey Williams, editor of the Southern Farmer.

Joe Louis was honored as "a great fighter, a great American and a great humanitarian."

Gloves Auctioned Off

The gloves the champion wore when he knocked out Tami Mauriello were auctioned off by Johnnie Faulk, white, Texas tale teller currently under contract to the CBS network. The gloves bore Joe's autograph.

Frank Sinatra, star of screen and radio, served as toastmaster. Duke Ellington, composer, and Jean Muir, former screen actress, were co-chairmen. Burl Ives, folk singer and balladeer, entertained.

Pay Tribute to Joe

Guests included figures in the sports, theatrical and civic world, all of whom paid tribute to the heavyweight titleholder for his contribution to the field of racial understanding.

Among the guests present were Judge Hubert T. Denaly, Canada Lee, Paul Robeson, Dr. Channing Tobias, Mike Jacobs, Dan Dodson, Dorothy Parker, Quentin Reynolds, Burgess Meredith, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Field and Edward M. M. Warburg.

Like Cousin, Like Cousin

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

JOE LOUIS,
pictured at the age of 23, when he won the heavyweight championship of the world from Jimmy Braddock, and . . .

Sat. 12-21-46

COLEY WALLACE,
Joe's cousin, who bears a strong resemblance to the Bomber, gets started on his career at age of 18.

JOE LOUIS HONORED FOR CIVIC SERVICE

The Times
New York, N.Y.

Gets Plaque in Harlem, Makes 3-Minute Speech, Time of a Round in Boxing

Thurs.

Joe Louis, heavyweight champion of the world, received a plaque yesterday "in recognition of his outstanding service in the field of race relations."

12-5-46

He was honored at a testimonial luncheon given at the Joe Louis Restaurant, 11 West 125th Street. When he got up to speak, he smiled and said that he would limit his acceptance "to the three minutes customary in the ring."

"In fact," he said, "I can end it quicker than that—quicker than the Schmeling fight, especially the first one."

The award was made by the Uptown Chamber of Commerce, whose membership includes many merchants operating stores in Harlem. Col. Leopold Philipp, president of the Uptown Chamber, also presented last year's winner of the award, Angelo C. Decorato, motorman for the Third Avenue Railway System, and praised him for his "even temper and ability to improve race relations in the confines of his trolley car."

Mr. Decorato said he never found trouble being kind to people.

like all the people," he said, "and thing they all like me. It matters not what race or color they are. I was taught that way when I was a boy."

Several speakers were critical of "Harlem rabble rousers" who "make the going hard for persons with conservative and constructive programs to better conditions." Frank Schiffman, who spoke for the Uptown Chamber's committee for the improvement of race relations, said that the merchants were eager to make "a post-war contribution to better race relations—hence the inter-racial committee."

"We profit by the example of Joe Louis, who never lets a friend down," he said. "We are a group of Harlem business men who are determined to eradicate racial intolerance if we can."

Mrs. Edith Alexander of the Mayor's Committee on Unity, said "better human relations demand more than lip service to the principles of democracy." She appealed to the merchants present to consider Harlem problems seriously. "even when we don't live here." She said, "We must practice what we preach."

12-5-46

The last thirteen years have seen Harlem residents advance from "almost no jobs to managers of department stores." Marvin Cassell of the Uptown Chamber's inter-racial committee, declared. He also wanted Harlem to "eliminate the emotional demagogues."

Other speakers paid tribute to Michael S. (Mike) Jacobs for his work to promote "improved prize-ring conditions" and to allow Negroes to compete on an equal footing with all other racial groups.

'PLAIN AMERICAN,' JOE LOUIS, HONORED

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 12-14-46

For being a "plain American" and in recognition of his outstanding service in the field of race relations, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis was honored with a luncheon at his New York restaurant last week by the Upown Chamber of Commerce. Holding the tablet presented to him as their "choice of the outstanding American of '46, Louis is surrounded by, left to right, Joe Kelly; Police Captain Boylan of the Harlem district; Nathaniel Burg, Detective George Weber and Police Captain Harding.—Hansen photo.

63c 1946

Joe Louis (General)

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. Fri.

Associated Press Wirephoto.

CHAMPS COACH DEWEY—Home run king George Babe Ruth (left) and Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis give Governor Thomas E. Dewey a few tips on how to win at Dewey's headquarters in New York. Dewey is campaigning for re-election. *11-1-46*

It's Deputy Sheriff Louis Now

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat.

8-10-46

Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis proudly displays his badge of authority presented him by Sheriff Michael Mulcahy of Cook County (Chicago), last week. Joe is a special deputy sheriff assigned to Mulcahy's personal staff.

Joe Louis Performs Before 11,000 Fans in Honolulu Exhibition Bout

The Call Kansas City, Mo. Fri. 11-22-46

HONOLULU. —(ANP)— The 11,000 sports fans who attended Honolulu stadium here last Tuesday applauded the exhibition boxing participated in by Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis against his Hawaiian opponents, Cleo Everett and Wayne Powell. Joe took on his two opponents for six rounds each, but spared them a knockout.

Prior to the boxing show, Joe played golf matches with the territory golf champion, Stanley Werner, and the governor. In both matches the score was tied, but a later game with Sen. Francis Brown and Happy Cooper of Oahu county saw the champion lose by a score of 78-72.

During his stay in Honolulu, Joe and his party were constantly swamped by female admirers. When questioned about their beauty, Joe admitted they all were pretty.

The champion's party toured hospitals, Nuuanu YMCA and Punahou school, recorded for MBC and NBC. In an interview with reporters Joe declared that New York is the best city in the USA; that he liked Hawaiian weather, and that the Negro press is the greatest of all.

Joe and his party departed for Los Angeles, to make ready for a Mexico engagement with Daniel Peck. Before leaving, he gave the local NAACP group and Hawaiian Veterans outfit $1,000 each.

Accompanying him on his tour will be Cleo Everett. Stadium management announced that $53,000 had been paid to see Joe in the exhibition matches.

Commenting on the world series, Joe said, "I was pulling for the Red Sox, but the better team won."

Louis and his party are stopping with some wealthy friends on the windward side of Oahu. They expect to visit the four other Hawaiian islands before leaving for Mexico where he is to appear Nov. 24.

Harry Grayson, NEA nationally known sports editor, is also covering all activities of Joe on the tour. Although much secrecy surrounded the arrival time of Louis, the police had a job holding back some several hundred people.

Joe Louis Says He Has No Intention Of Retiring; Will Meet Any Fighter

The Call Kansas City, Mo. Fri. 11-22-46

By HUBERT H. WHITE

Honolulu. —(ANP)—When Joe Louis arrived aboard the clipper "Southern Cross" Friday evening, he made history in that this is the first time a reigning world heavyweight champion has crossed an ocean by plane. The Pan-American plane made the trip from Los Angeles in nine hours and 58 minutes, a record set by Capt. F. S. Ralph, pilot.

On stepping from the plane, Louis said, "I am glad to be here." He was presented by Mrs. Charles Cornell.

Joe was on the island for a four-round exhibition bout with Cleo Everett at the Honolulu stadium Monday night. In the party with the world's greatest heavyweight champion are comanager Marshall Miles, and his trainer, Manny Seamon. Leonard Reed, a personal friend of long standing, is also with Louis.

Louis was particularly nice to the press. He had an answer for all the questions thrown at him. "I have no intentions of retiring. I'll continue to fight as often as opponents are provided," said Louis calmly when questioned as to whom he expects to fight next. Louis said Bruce Woodcock, British heavyweight champion, seems to be a good man. "My next bout will probably take place next summer."

BETWEEN THE LINES

Memphis World

Joe Louis, Idol Of The Nation

Memphis Tenn

By DEAN G. B. HANCOCK
(For ANP)

UPON HIS THRONE of pugilistic supremacy, Joe Louis sits exalted and serene! Never a man boxed like this man. He boxed his way from the cotton fields of Alabama into a fame that has spread around the earth.

Tue. 9-9-46

Even more powerful than his devastating fists, is his gentlemanly example mirroring the fine influence of his Christian mother. When Joe's mother taught him comely behavior coupled with a more or less silent tongue, she was starting him on the road that has led to fame and fortune. American mothers, take note. Joe's talklessness has been one of his strong points and here is hoping that his present handlers do not attempt to make an orator out of him. Little by little he is beginning to "talk" thus departing from his world-famed common-sense classics "I glad I win" and "another lucky night."

The closer Joe sticks to these little classics the safer his popularity. His fights are not as nerve-racking to me as his speeches. I can trust him as a boxer but I cannot trust him as a speaker—always afraid he is going to say something wrong. This country is waiting most impatiently for him to make his first major mistake and I do not want it to be a mistake in words. When Joe departs from his two little classics he needs a "manuscript" that is edited and double-checked. Joe is our idol and we do not want to see him broken even by a little speech the sportsmen try to extract from him, hoping the while that they cannot. If silence made him famous why grow eloquent?

SUPREME INFLUENCE

Joe Louis today is the supreme interracial influence in this country. He is worshipped alike by whites and Negroes. Theoretical interracialism can never compare with practical interracialism such as Joe Louis has brought to the scene. When the nation and world draws near the radio to hear from the ring-side, its attention is centered on Joe Louis, Negro gentleman and boxer extraordinary. It does something to the hearts and minds of men everywhere. When the world stands for a Negro battering the face of a white man, it is getting ready to stand for some other things which are ultimately more important, such as Negroes sharing the Democracy Negroes have fought to save. Joe Louis the practical interracialist has demonstrated too conclusively that economic well-being does not turn the Negro's head as the Negrophobes are wont to declare. Joe Louis is a fine influence in this country because he attends to his specialty, beak-busting.

The career and fame of Louis is another outstanding proof that if

a man becomes a specialist, he becomes a power. This raises the all-important question, Are we specialists at our specialty? Can teachers and preachers and doctors and lawyers and business men say they are as efficient at their specialty as Joe is at his? Joe is the last word and as such is exerting a mighty influence for good in this nation and world. He is the outstanding interracialist of this generation and has become such merely by specializing in his specialty, just battering other men's faces for the amusement of men whose primitive instincts can be unbridled for a few moments.

GOD GIVEN FISTS Tue. 7-9-46

In sacred writ we are told that there was a man sent from God whose name is John with equal truth be said that another man has been sent from God whose name is Joe. Joe Louis with those God-given fists has done too much to lift the pride and feelings of a race to make us believe for once that God did not send him. For nearly 10 years this unsophis-

must not become suckers for Black Marketeers and Greedy Merchants. Find the merchant who is trying to be reasonable with his prices. There will be some who will not take the advantage of the death of OPA.

Beware of the peddler of nylon and silk hosiery, pork chops and other scarcities in Negro neighborhoods. A few weeks ago a peddler was observed selling hen scratch at 15c per pound. Don't encourage these ruthless salesman. It is cheaper to eat or sell your poultry. Buy some shares in the Tri-State Bank and Trust Company or Buy some more Victory stamps and bonds now and defeat inflation.

Joe Louis Gets On With Plan To Open Cafe

By A. M. GOUL
United Press Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK (U.P.)—Joe Louis is doing several things these days, such as planning on opening a restaurant in New York, playing lots golf, doing a brief turn in night clubs here, in Chicago and Detroit, and getting ready for his championship battle with Tami Mauriello next month.

But there are at least two things he is not thinking about—losing to Maruriello and quitting the ring. As usual, in all things fistic, Louis lets Promoter Mike Jacobs do most of his thinking and planning, even to the point of taking care of the money that Louis has earned, but in his golfing and night-club-routine, Louis steps out of character as champion.

By his own admission he's only a fair golfer. and is quite a bit worse as an "actor." He doesn't have much to say about his possibilities as a restaurateur, but since that comes under the heading of business, it's probable Mike Jacobs will have the chief say about that.

In fact, there are those who say that about all Louis will have invested in the restaurant will be his name. The Joe Louis Restaurant will open in the West 50s in a few months. Preliminary work has been started, but Joe doesn't know too much about just what kind of a place it's going to be.

Uses Stooge in Act

The champ's turn on the stage is reminiscent of the routine of ex-champ of the lightweights Tony Canzoneri. Louis has as his partner in the act, a little dancer named Leonard Reed. The dancer pretends he's all riled up about Joe and challenges him to a fight, and then realizing how monstrous the idea is, the challenger cringes away in fear and seeks to back out.

It's not particularly funny. Joe never lets the hint of emotion of any kind pass over his dead-pan countenance. On the stage, he's the same as in the ring. But he does talk a little bit, engaging the little fellow in a bit of dialogue, the highlight of which is when the dancer tells Joe his wife can lick Joe's wife. Not very hilarious, but the customers seem to like it.

Although Joe has not realized on his championship in the same sense that Jack Dempsey or Gene Tunney made big money with their real estate or restaurant holdings, he has done two things:

He purchased an apartment house for his mother in Detroit—the mother that brought him out of the Alabama cotton fields. sent him through school and into the public eye as one of the greatest champions ever known. He has bought a home in Hollywood for his former wife, night club entertainer and actress Marva Trotter, and their small daughter.

There have been recurrent and periodic reports that Joe and Marva will be reconciled, but up to now, they are still apart. If Joe ever worries about it, he never gives an indication.

If he has any questions, or doubts about anything, Joe turns to Mike Jacobs.

JOE LOUIS CAFE OPENS

The Black-Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

By FLOYD SNELSON

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — Joe Louis is the idol of Harlem! That statement is a decided fact and far beyond a jest if his popularity and acclaim is judged by the grand opening of the Joe Louis restaurant, at 125th street and Fifth avenue in the heart of Harlem, Wednesday.

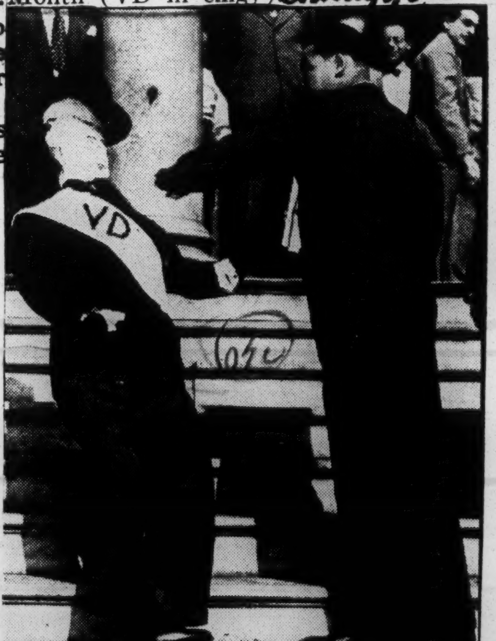
I was glad to be one of his many personal friends whom he entertained so royally as a closed reception for an afternoon soiree prior to the doors being thrown open to the public; during which time a battery of police grappled with a crowd of 25,000 fans who stampeded the whole street for blocks to get a glimpse of the Brown Bomber and his 500 guests inside.

When acting mayor and president of the New York City Council, V. R. Impellitteri, was introduced by Harlem's Negro "Mayor" Bill (Bojangles) Robinson to bring hearty greetings from Mayor O'Dwyer and the great city of New York, he paid high tribute to Joe Louis as one of its greatest citizens and a cherished exponent of his race. Sat. 9-14-46

The formal opening of the city's newest and most modern dining place officially made Mr. Joe Louis president of the institution, a business man and a highly respected citizen of New York. Many other high city and state officials, business and civic leaders in addition to his great benefactor, Uncle Mike Jacobs, along with a host of close friends and admirers were present. A buffet lunch was provided free for the guests.

The Louis establishment is brand new from the cellar to the roof, the whole thing built and equiped as of postwar design by the eminent Negro architect, Vertner Tandy, who built the famous Mme. Walker estate on the Hudson a decade ago. A landmark of importance is a 100 foot mural on the west wall with sketches of such notables of Negro descents as Booker T. Washington, Dr. George W. Carver, Marian Anderson, Paul Robeson, Bill Robinson, together with the great emancipator Abraham Lincoln. Of course the life size likeness of the champion was inevitably admired.

Joe Louis, on the steps of New York's City Hall, balled a brawny fist in the cause of the American Social Hygiene Association's October anti-venereal drive for $300,000, bumped off the Bum of the Month (VD in effigy) Chicago, Ill. Mon. 10-21-46



Associated Pres
JOE LOUIS & ENEMY
Out for $300,000.

HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION ACQUIRES NEW TITLE

The Times New York, N.Y. Wed. 10-9-46

Joe Louis wearing the tag given to him during his initiation into the Circus Saints and Sinners Club at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel yesterday with former Mayor James J. Walker looking on.

Associated Press

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Kayoes Flight Record!

Just nine hours and 51 minutes after their plane left Burbank, Cal., Capt. F. S. Ralph, senior pilot of the PWA Clipper Southern Cross, landed heavyweight champion Joe Louis in Honolulu and set a new record for the flight. Tues. 11-12-46

Joe's Civic Service

The Florida Times-Union

Joe Louis, Negro heavyweight champion of the world, has received a plaque in New York "in recognition of his outstanding service in the field of race relations."

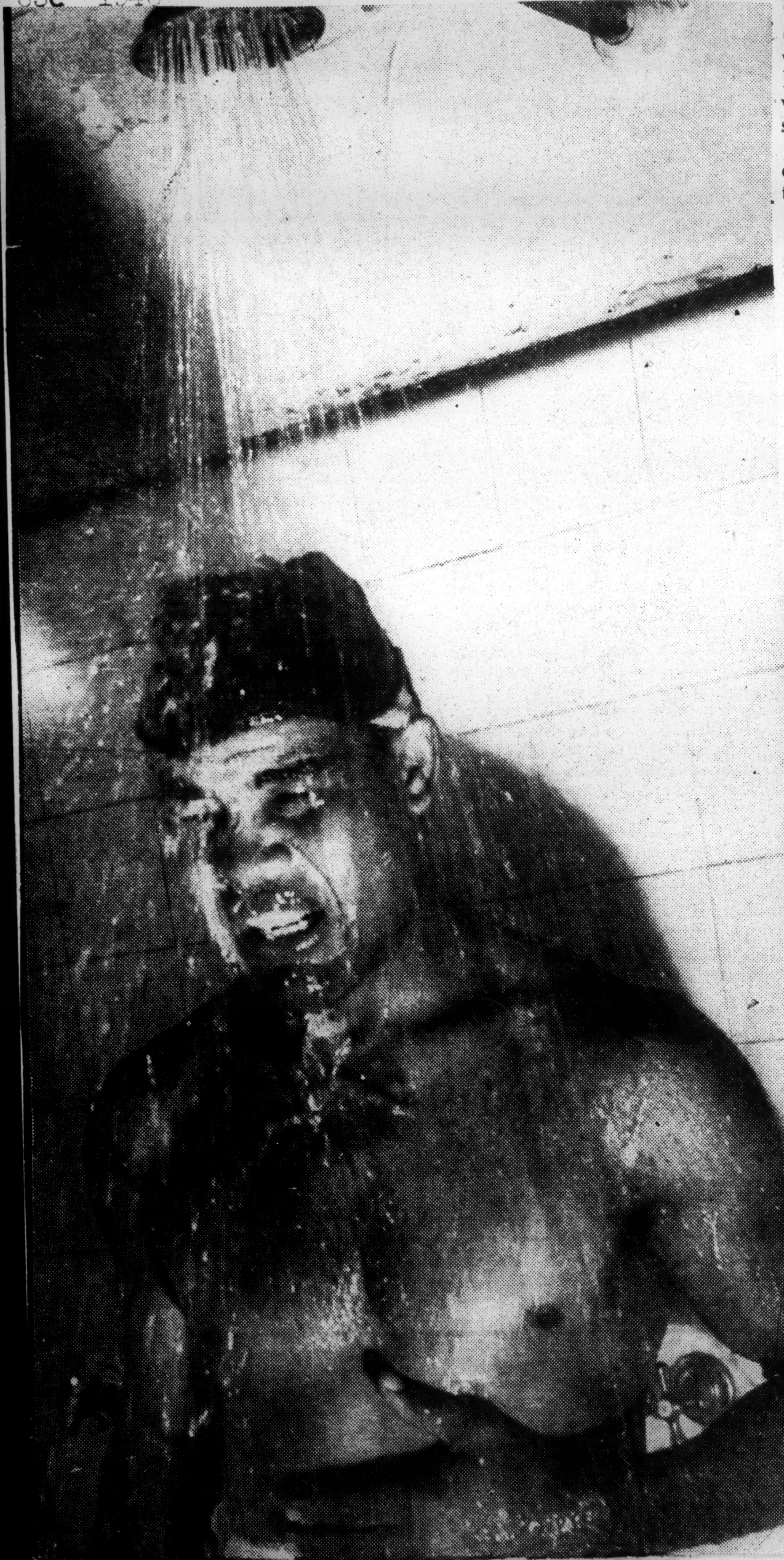
Be it said to his credit that he has never used the prominence he has gained to stir up racial differences and aid the rabble rousers.

His chief assets were his fists and he made good use of them to establish himself at the pinnacle of the boxing business and to stay there. Jacksonville, Fla.

We've never heard of Joe's grumbling about not being allowed to enjoy his rights or of his appealing to Washington to force somebody to hire him. Sat. 12-28-46

He had as much right to the championship as anybody else, but he had to fight for it. It couldn't be handed to him wrapped up in a federal law.

Joe Lewis has rendered a service in race relations. He has demonstrated that color of the skin is no bar to an individual who has what it takes and gets in there and uses it.—Greenville (S. C.) News.



PM New York, N.Y.

Still the champ, joltin' Joe Louis took a quick shower after his quick KO of Tami Mauriello in the first round of their heavy-weight title fight at Yankee Stadium September 18. On June 19, Joe had taken a little longer (eight rounds) to finish Billy Conn. At year's end, fight promoters were still looking for the champ's next opponent. Professional baseball got off to a shaky start last spring when talk of more money "South of the Border" lured many players to sunny Mexico. On those who went, Commissioner Chandler promptly clamped five-year suspensions. The National League race ended in a tie between the Brooklyn Dodgers and St. Louis Cardinals, necessitating the first play-off in league history. The Cards won, then squashed the Boston Red Sox in the World Series. Cleveland's Bobby Feller, his speed ball clocked at 98.6 miles per hour, set a new strike-out mark with 348 and the Pittsburgh Pirates, in a test case, rejected the Baseball Guild in an NLRB election. In football, Notre Dame held Army scoreless for the first time in three years and Navy was only three yards from an upset over the Cadets when the final whistle blew. Professional football's prestige suffered when a gambling syndicate representative tried to bribe two New York Giant players to throw the National League championship game to the Chicago Bears. The attempted bribe wasn't necessary; the Bears won, anyway. In basketball, the Phillips Oilers won the national AAU tourney. Montreal skated away with ice-hockey's Stanley Cup and Assault captured the Kentucky Derby.

Sun. 12-29-46

PM New York, N.Y. Mon. 12-16-46

Folks-singer Woody Guthrie (left) pays tribute to Joe Louis in song while composer Earl Robinson looks on. Louis will be honored by more than 700 fans tonight at a dinner to be held at the Starlight Roof of the Waldorf-Astoria under the sponsorship of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

Mon. 12-16-46

Feted at Waldorf

Champ Takes Sock At Race Prejudice

The Courier Pittsburgh Pa

Sat. 12-28-46

63c

By CHESTER L. WASHINGTON

NEW YORK CITY—"Lots of people think that I'm doing all right as a fighter and that I should stick to my business. They mean all right, but they don't understand that fighting prejudice, disease and second-class citizenship is my business, too," declared Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis at an imposing testimonial banquet in his honor in the Waldorf Astoria's beautiful Starlight Room here Monday night.

Addressing a distinguished audience of interracial leaders, generals, college professors and movie stars at an affair sponsored by the Southern Conference for Human Welefare, the champion continued:

"I hate jim crow. I hate disease. I hate the poll tax. I hate seeing people kept down because they are colored. I am not going to let this hate stay in my system, but I am going to help people fight jim crow and try to make this a better America. I am going to try to keep my punch in the ring as well as out of the ring. And with all of you behind me. I can't go wrong."

COOPERATION NEEDED

"I'm just doing what other Americans who have a heart and soul have done. We all need to work and fight together to make the dream of Abraham Lincoln come true. And I think that Percy Green (fighting editor of the Jackson, Miss., Advocate) is the man who should be given the credit and honor tonight," Joe declared, modestly.

With the dapper Frankie Sinatra, acting as master of ceremonies, the notables assembled in the Star-Spangled banquet hall would fill a page in "Who's Who in America."

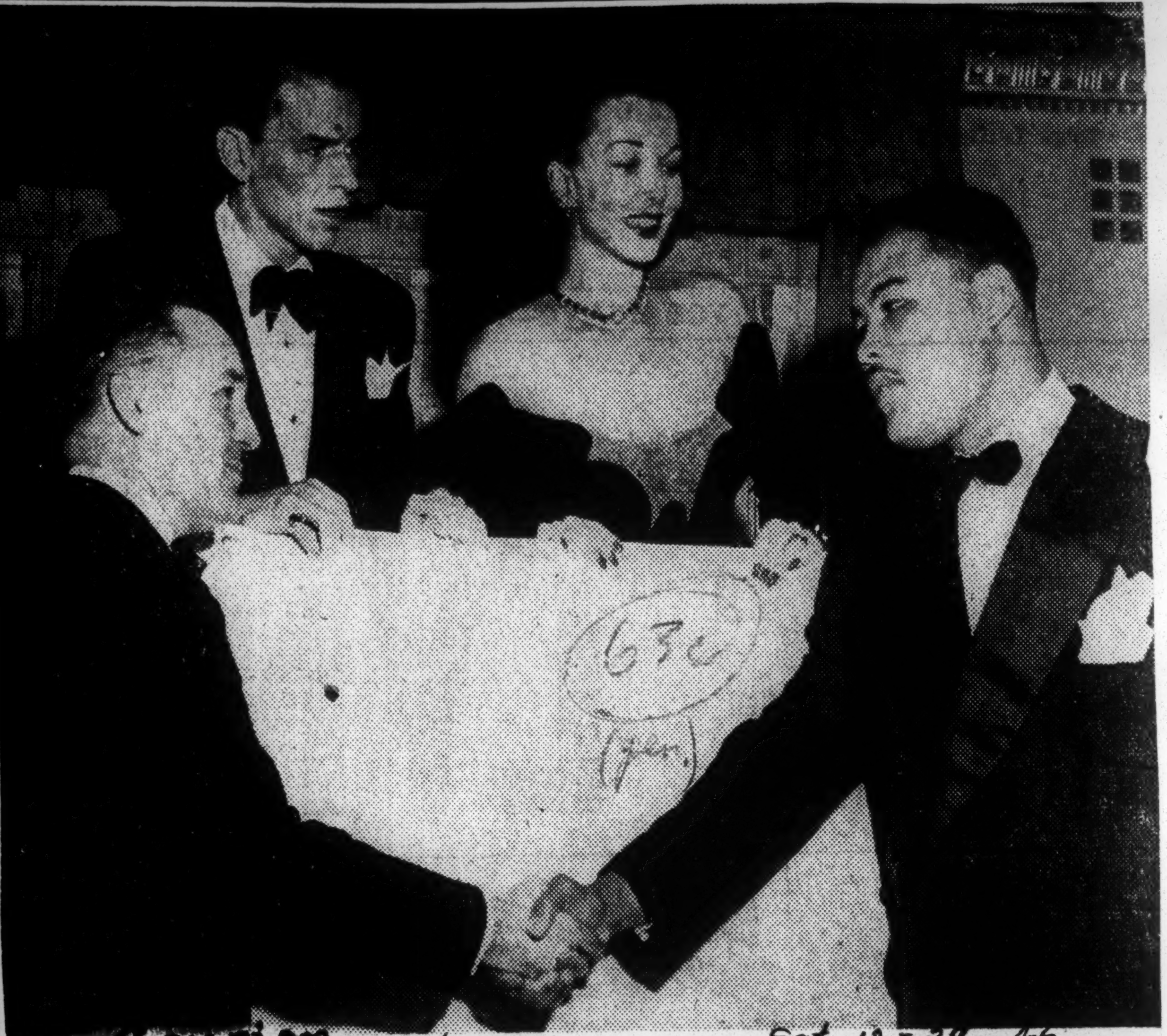
We saw Gen. John Kirkpatrick, Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Hazel Scott, Carole Landis, the screen star; Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare; Dr. James H. Sheldon, chairman of the Anti-Nazi League, who exposed the Columbians, Inc.; Etta Moten, famous singer; Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Mr. and Mrs. John Hammond, New York socialites; Mr. and Mrs. J. Wettzman, prominent Washingtonians; Marjorie McKenzie, columnist; Eunice Hunton Carter, Percy Greene, Jackson Advocate editor; Jean Muir, noted actress; Jennings Perry, PM columnist; Duke Ellington, Lucky Millinder, Abbie Mitchell, Harry Hirshfield, famed humorist; "Ham" Fisher, creator of the "Joe Palooka" cartoon, and a host of others.

Percy Green, the militant editor of the Jackson Advocate, told of the hard battle which was being waged to gain the right to vote in Mississippi. He told how a campaign had been started to deprive Negro civilians and soldiers of the ballot, despite their contribution to help win the war. Disregarding all of the threats against voting in Mississippi, 2,500 were brave enough to go to the polls and cast their ballots. He also told how over 300 volunteered to testify against Bilbo in the recent hearings in the Delta State.

He concluded by saying he favored Negroes staying in the South and improving their own economic opportunities there, rather than migrating to the North.

The affair opened with a beautiful rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" by lovely Etta Moten, with Hazel Scott as her accompianist, and an impressive prayer by the Rev. A. Clayton Powell Jr.

—BILBO MUST GO—

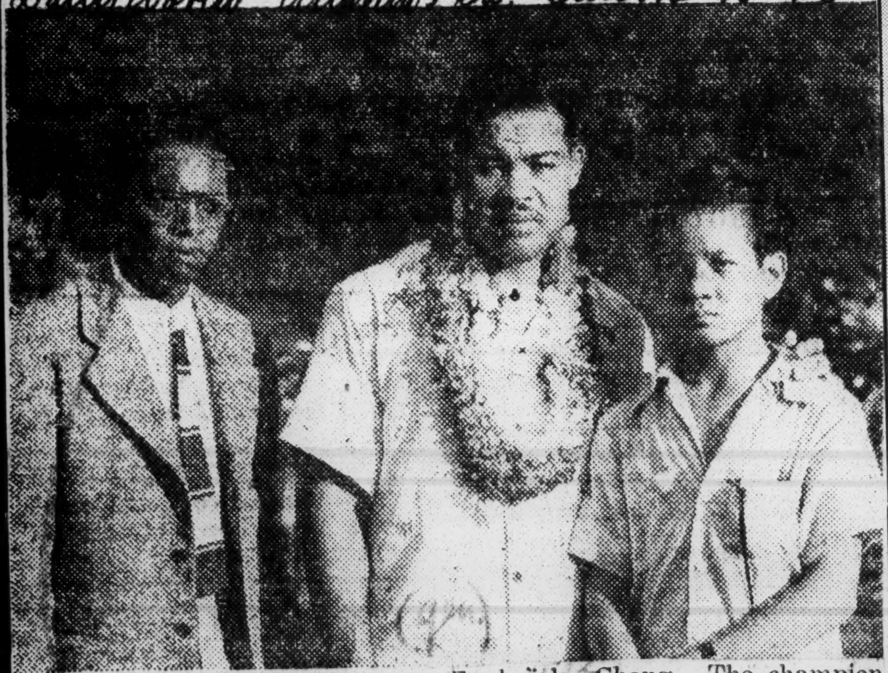


The Courier. Sat. 12-28-46

IT WAS JOE'S NIGHT—Highlighting the dinner honoring Joe Louis at New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel was the presentation of a scroll by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, sponsors of the affair, with autographs of the people who attended the winner. Joe is thanking Clark Foreman, Conference president, while Frank Sinatra and movie star Carole Landis watch from behind the scroll.—European Photo.

Pittsburgh Pa.

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Tues. 12-10-46



ON HAWAII TOUR—Joe Louis is seen here at the Oahu Country Club, after a game with Harry Cooper and Senator Brown, of Hawaii. Louis fought and was an ambassador of good-will on the tour. Left to right: Herbert H. White, Associated Press correspondent, and a Hawaiian admirer, Frederick Chang. The champion loves golf as much as he loves boxing.—(ANP Photo by Wray and McCauley).

Dayton, Ohio 12-30-46

International Photos

Joe Louis, ready to play Santa Claus

Disguise: JOE LOUIS, heavyweight champion, tried on his Santa Claus suit for size a week before his scheduled appearance as the jolly gent. Louis will play Santa for six homeless children in New York, Dec. 22. After the kids try for prize money on a quiz show, he will take them to his Harlem restaurant.

Newsweek Mon.

JOE LOUIS PRAISES SISTER KENNY FUND

The Times

Heavyweight Champion Speaks at Financial District Rally in Drive for $2,000,000

New York, N.Y.

Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis endorsed yesterday the current fund-raising campaign of the Sister Elizabeth Kenny Foundation when he spoke at a noon-hour rally on the steps of the Sub-treasury Building at Wall and Nassau Streets. The rally was held to obtain support among workers in the financial district, in the drive to raise a city quota of $250,000 of the national $2,000,000 goal to aid victims of infantile paralysis.

John Power of the brokerage house of Eastman, Dillon and Company appealed to a crowd of 1,500 persons to send contributions to the foundation campaign.

In his talk, Joe Louis congratulated Sister Kenny upon her "wonderful work." Fri. 12-20-46

"Being a prize fighter myself," he said, "I know what it means to be able to get around all the time, and it is a wonderful idea to help all children to get around."

Sister Kenny expressed gratitude to those helping to spread her method of treating paralysis victims. She said that doctors brought three children to her yesterday and she was able to help them. She said that the foundation was formed to promote her technique, and "this is what I want to give to you people: I want to bring gladness to the mothers of America."

Funds collected in the campaign, in addition to their use for care and treatment of paralysis victims, also will be used for scholarships for Kenny technicians and for establishment here of a clinic, a foundation spokesman announced at the meeting.

Glen Davis Wins AP Award; Louis Second

The Call

NEW YORK.—Joe Louis and Glenn Davis, Army's All-American half back, ran neck and neck for the annual top honors given to male athletes of the year by the Associated Press year-end poll. Kansas City, Mo.

Davis was finally selected by the Press body as the athlete of the year with Louis his only serious runner-up. Sat. 12-27-46

Louis won the award in 1935. This year he has defended his title twice, against Billy Conn and Tami Mauriello. Louis drew 16 first place ballots.

On the basis of three points for a first place vote, two for second and one for third, Davis piled up 106 points to 78 for Louis.

The Champ's in a Hole

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-3-46

Although he couldn't get in the holes on the golf course with sufficient skill to get into the qualifying group for the Tam O'Shanter Golf tournament last week, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis seems to know what he has to do to get out of this hole. That's why he's busy signing autographs for this band of youthful Chicagoans, who may not be satisfied even then.

(63c)

Joe Louis Thanks Gov. Dewey for Naming Ring Commissioner

The Afro American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 11-2-46

NEW YORK — Terming Gov. Thomas E. Dewey "one of the most honest, sincere and able men I have ever known in public office," World Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis called for his reelection to the State's highest office.

Writing in the Oct. 15 issue of "Bandwagon," Louis rejected the use of the words "most tolerant" in reference to the Governor.

"When a man is tolerant of other people," he said, "he thinks of those other people as inferior to him.

"Gov. Dewey just seems to think of all people as human beings, like himself, and he judges every man on a basis of ability and character, no matter what his race or creed."

Interest in Veterans

"As a veteran," he continued, "I am interested in what is being done for those of us who served in the armed forces. I don't think any other State has done as well for its veterans as New York has under Governor Dewey."

Listing some veterans' benefits, Louis said, the blind get $500 a year, the sick, up to $25 a week, and a veteran in New York can get help to open a business or to get a job.

"Maybe the thing the Governor did that affects me most directly was his appointment of a colored man to membership on the New York State Athletic Commission," declared the fighter.

Also citing the appointment of the first colored fight judge, he pointed out that a colored man was one of the judges on June 18 when he fought Billy Conn.

Importance to Boxers

"The Boxing Commission," he explained, "is like the supreme court of boxing, and nobody knows any better than a colored fighter how important it is for him that men who judge what he does are fair and not prejudiced."

Finally recalling his mother's admonition, "always be thankful for favors received," he stated:

"People ought to be grateful to Governor Dewey on his record alone and ought to support him for re-election. I am for him and sure hope all my friends are for him too."

In this corner

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Wed. 10-30-46

Answering Some Letters About Joe Louis

By Bill Mardo

A number of letters have come to this corner asking about Joe Louis' recent endorsement of Governor Dewey. Here's one typical comment:

(63c)

"Dear Bill:

"We haven't hesitated in pointing out what a great fighter Joe Louis is, and the contributions he has made to his people. Which is also why there shouldn't be any hesitation on the fact that he has come out for Dewey. How about it?

"Comradely yours,

"BERNIE KRANSDORF."

* * *

JOE LOUIS

Not only the contributions Joe Louis "has made to his people," but the contributions he continues to make and not to his people alone, but to all progressives and the labor movement generally.

Yes, it's true Joe Louis has endorsed Dewey. That was a big mistake on Joe's part and let's make no bones about it. But it would be a bigger mistake if progressives allowed that to determine their relations with the great champion. How is it that a man like Louis supports one of the most dangerous spokesmen for reaction?

Firstly, let's remember that Dewey is a Republican. The GOP has always made the most demagogic appeals to the Negro people by posing as "The Party of Lincoln." That, plus the spectacle of Democratic Party polltaxers in the South, makes it easier to understand how a man like Dewey could get Louis' ear.

The average person not closely connected with the inside of the sports scene couldn't possibly know the tremendous pressure constantly exerted on Louis by the reactionaries. Despite this, Louis has in the main consistently championed the progressive cause. It's unfortunate that Joe didn't quite connect Dewey as being opposed to the very things that Joe himself stands for.

But Joe Louis, despite his mistaken endorsement of Dewey, CONTINUES to fight for progress and all things good—something that must be quite embarrassing to that man in Albany. Joe Louis endorsed Ben Davis in the last Councilmanic elections. Joe Louis recently endorsed the progressive Ada B. Jackson. Joe is honorary chairman of the United and Allied Veterans of America, and is an outspoken fighter for vets' rights. Joe Louis calls organized labor the "greatest force for the end of Jimcrow."

He does all this, and will do even more in the future. And in due time he'll come to recognize the Republican Party for what it is. But the one thing to keep clear on now, is: Joe Louis is a sincere progressive anxious at all times to do what he thinks is best. And while the progressive movement rightfully regrets Louis' endorsement of Dewey, it should never lose sight of the great force for good that Joe is and will continue to be.

Jolting Joe's Famous Fights

By CHES WASHINGTON

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

After battering Two-Ton Tony Galento into a helpless hunk of humanity in four rounds on June 28, 1939, Joe Louis next knocked out Bicycle Bob Pastor in eleven rounds, won from Arturo Godoy in fifteen, cashed in on Johnny Paycheck in two abbreviated rounds and then started drilling for a return fight with Godoy set for June 20, 1940.

This was to be Joe's eleventh defense of his heavyweight championship and another one of those times when Louis was called upon to meet the same fighter twice, to see whether he could do it again... but quicker.

Sat. 6-8-46

GODOY A TOUGH CUSTOMER

Built as solid as a dreadnaught, Godoy had never before been knocked off his feet in sixty-seven fights. Among his victims was bragging, beer-bloated Tony Galento, whom he had beaten twice.

In the opening round Louis came out swinging at the Chilean in the South American way. And Joe really had that swing that night. Before Godoy could convert into his famous turtle-like crouch, Joe had nailed him with a lightning-like right which started blood flowing from his face. Then came another vicious right . . . and Arturo's head came up like a rubber ball bounding on a cement sidewalk.

From that point on Godoy went into his famous crouch. Joe had to bend forward and direct body blows at his foe from a bent-over the sixth they fought, head to head, with Louis shooting power punches to the South American's ribs, kidneys or any other portion of the midsection which happened to be exposed.

Came the seventh and Joe straightened Godoy up with a mighty hook. Again Godoy came charging in. Instead of backing up, Joe moved in and shot a potent right to the chin. Arturo wobbled. Joe closed in and started shooting five in, dynamic power punches. A right dropped Godoy to the floor. He took the count

6.

In the eighth a dazed Godoy charged again like a maddened bull. And again Joe figured that Arturo was asking for it.

Louis dressed him up for the kill with a couple of jarring lefts. And then came that right. Godoy dropped like the Flatiron Building had fallen on him. He stumbled to his feet at the count of eight. And again that right flashed. Arturo was felled again for "keeps" like a bull butchered on the Pampas.

And Joe was still the champion cowpuncher of the world's fistic ranges.

Tell How Rumors And Labor Groups Balked Opening Of Joe Louis' Cafe

The Defender Chicago Ill.

Sat. 10-12-46

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Surviving wild rumors and gossip spread following its opening, the Joe Louis restaurant is well on its way to becoming a community establishment and take its rightful place among the city's high class dining rooms.

Everybody knew that Joe Louis was not a restaurateur. He is a fighter looking forward to the day when his potent fists will no longer earn him a livelihood and glory. But he is paying strict attention to the new enterprise and trying to learn the intricacies of the difficult food business.

First, rumors hit Harlem that Joe was being taken for a ride. This is not true. Joe has a 30 per cent interest in the business. Jack Roth, experienced restaurant operator with a chain of restaurants including a famous establishment on Broadway, has a 30 per cent interest in the place and Mrs. Lewis Brooks, who owned the land on which the building was erected, has a 30 per cent interest. The remaining 10 per cent belongs to Mike Jacobs.

Louis' associates are all sound business people and the venture has the advantage of being in the hands of a man who has made a success of restaurants. It is an instance of democracy at work, with white and Negro proprietors combining to give the community a high class dining room and bar.

Many things happened before the restaurant opened which would have stumped a less experienced man and they probably gave rise to the wild rumors and malicious whisperings which were prevalent in Harlem.

Sat. 10-12-46

First the United States Employment service told the management before it opened that the staff would have to be mixed, there could not be an all Negro staff. This was O.K. and so the management went to work and hired a mixed staff. Then the Harlem Labor union stepped in and yelled to high heavens that white people were working in the place. On top of that, the State Committee Against discrimination wrote in that not enough white people were being used as employes. Perhaps these gave rise to the wild stories published that white waiters served white patrons and colored waiters served colored patrons. Nothing was further from the truth.

How Does Joe Feel Before Fight?

The Worker New York, N.Y.

Sun. 10-20-46

Heavyweight champ Joe Louis has some interesting things to say about how he feels in those few fleeting seconds just before the bell rings. Most writers have painted Louis as being cold and emotionless as he goes into battle. But Joe himself says its not quite so.

"When I get back to my corner after the referee's instructions that's when I start thinkin' a thousand things," said the heavyweight champ in his quiet office off the main room of his new restaurant up in Harlem.

"They go through my mind over and over, like in a circle. Some things about fighting, some about what I did in the afternoon or any other time. Just keep goin' round and round.

"But when the bell rings, that's all gone."

This should surprise the dozens of nervous men who have fought him and other thousands who have watched him dispatch these foes with an apparent contempt for the spine-tingling excitement accompanying each title bout.

An icy outward calm has been Joe's trademark for so long the legend has grown that he is simply a fighting machine. In a sense he is. His opponent of the moment doesn't concern him beyond the extent that here is another man who might hit him on the chin and take away his title. It might be Baer or Schmeling or Mauriello or some guy fresh out of the sticks.

But Joe admits he has plenty of pre-fight thoughts and this is as close as he can come to pinning them down!

"In the dressing room, I shadow box to get hot and limbered up," he said. **"All the time I'm thinkin' about what will be my first move when the bell rings. About how to get in the first punch that can win the fight. Once in a while I might think about the man I'm gonna box, but not much.**

"In the ring, I don't see or hear the crowd or even hear the referee's instructions. I know 'em by heart, anyway, and I keep concentratin' on my first move. But just before that bell rings I start thinkin' of a thousand things!"

Like everyone else, Louis can see

JOE LOUIS

no outstanding challenger on the horizon.

"All the good ones seem to be the same—Joe Walcott, Joe Baksi, Mauriello and some more like that.

"The army didn't hurt me any, but the war's the reason there don't seem to be any good fighters around. Probably somewhere out there around the country is some young fighter who might have been real good if he hadn't gone into the army."

What kind of a fighter will it take to lick him?

"Well, I guess it will have to be a guy who can hit harder than me and take a punch better."

Anybody know one like that?

Louis Sponsors Fund For UAW Hero Who Died for Negro Kids

New York, N.Y. Daily Worker

By William Allan

Wed 8-14-46

DETROIT, Aug. 13.—It was afternoon of July 4, two Negro kids were away out in the Detroit River, far out of their depth. Their cries could be heard from the shore. Steve Yako, a veteran of World War II, a UAW-CIO shop steward ran to the edge of the river, plunged in and began that long rugged swim out there.

People watched from the shore and the Belle Isle Bridge. Steve got one of the kids, brought him back in to the beach and started right back out for the other. But Steve Yako never reached the other Negro boy and Steve himself, exhausted and unable to buck the strong river current went down to his own death trying to save two young lives.

The boy that he brought to the beach could not be brought around and died shortly after. That is chapter one of the story. Chapter two begins with another champion, Joe Louis. Joe heard of the heroism of this factory worker and World War II veteran, Steve Yako. Steve had two children and wife. Like all auto workers he lived from day to day.

Wed 8-14-46

Sunday, Aug. 11, at Joe Louis' farm a horse show was held with all the proceeds going to the family of Steve Yako. This coming Thursday Aug. 15, at he champion's Chicken Shack restaurant at 424 E. Vernor highway, a special banquet is being held with all the proceeds being given to the men like Steve Yako and Joe Louis.

There is also a Steve Yako Fund sponsored by the Negro newspaper, the Detroit Tribune, to establish a scholarship for the Yako children and others. All the donations given by Joe Louis are part of that fund now being raised by the Negro and white people in appreciation and honor of Steve Yako, a white worker, a UAW-CIO shop steward and veteran who gave his life trying to save two Negro kids from drowning.

The bonds of unity between the Negro and white people are strengthened because of actions by men like Steve Yako.

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Fri. 11-1-46

"Will Fill Gap Long Felt" Says Champ

Heavyweight champion Joe Louis has given his hearty endorsement to the newly-born Labor Sports Federation.

The champ, who met with a delegation from the LSF at his Harlem restaurant Wednesday night, expressed keen interest in the unique working class and non-discriminatory gymnasium setup and the inter-union league competition.

Joe was a worker in the Ford River Rouge plant in the days before the CIO cracked the Ford empire. He has consistently recognized organized labor as "the greatest force against Jimcrow in the country."

His statement calling for support to the Federation and to the conference being held Nov. 12 follows:

"Dear Friends,

"I am very happy to indorse the call to the conference called for the purpose of forming the first Labor Sports Federation in America. I am certain that all friends of sports and fair play will join me in this endorsement.

"To working people, such a federation will bring new opportunities in inter-union sports. To sports lovers it will fill a gap long felt on the American scene.

***"To the Negro people the Federation promises** to bring opportunities to participate in body building and health activities on a fully equal basis.*

"To all Americans it will be an expression that there is no place for any discrimination in the field of sports or anywhere else.

"I urge the American people to support the Conference as an excellent development in the field of sports.

Cordially,

"Joe Louis"

I'M TELLING YOU...

Stable politics has resulted in the banishment from Aqueduct race track of Sadie Brown, gray-haired Negro, who is the No. 1 "Pin-Up" among American jockeys. Since she was a small girl, "Chicken Sadie," as she is affectionately called, has earned a living selling fried chicken, hard-boiled eggs, sandwiches, cakes and a lemonade which she claims is "made in the shade with a silver spade," to such great stars as Sande, Garner, Loftus, Mehrtens, Arcaro and others.

Until recently, authorities approved Sadie's rent-free operations at all tracks because the stewards frown on jockeys entering the grandstand or clubhouse for snacks during racing hours. (Imagine Stout ordering crab meat the day he fell off Granville in the Derby!) Non-jockeys got short shrift from Sadie, usually being charged Park Avenue prices while having to wait for change.

Friday 6-14-46

There's something pleasantly infantile and kiddish about all this hullabaloo to get two men ready to punch each other for money next Wednesday night. A person goes and hangs around Teddy Gleason's roadhouse at Greenwood Lake, where Billy Conn is, and after a while the thing feels as if it were 40 years ago and one is about 10 again.

The way that feeling comes about is this. It feels like when you were 10 years old and by some chance you got to hang around for a while with "the big fellers." That was a great kick then, and it's the same way when everything is going on crazily, and yet with some purpose, in the training camps. These are "the big fellers." Not by standards of most of the world, of course, but by the standards of kids of 10 and 12. They're the great fighters, and the once-great fighters and the names you saw in the paper and they're all milling around, accomplishing nothing really, and having a very good time doing so.

These hundreds here are the fellows who down in their hearts don't want to cope with the Industrial Age. They don't give it any thought, but they act as if the Industrial Age was a mistake, and if the world can do nothing about it, these fellows will, individually.

Mysteriously, each one, rich or poor, has managed to get a means or ace-in-the-hole for beating the grind of living, and so here they all are in the sunshine, part of a big operation designed to get Billy Conn and Joe Louis facing each other in the ring next Wednesday night.

Great motorcades move along the roads from midtown Manhattan every morning about 11, and get into the Jersey countryside, then over the line into New York State again. Dozens of men of all ages are about Gleason's when the motorcades arrive, and Ivy, one of the girls in the dining-room, suddenly has to wait on a score of hungries all at once. Back in New York, hundreds of others are working on this operation, aimed for next Wednesday night, and the whole blooming thing is a refuge from producing anything, from any reality in living.

Oh, nuts! A person goes daffy thinking along that whacky road. So to get down to it, what did the big fellers see here in the last few hours of this particular day at camp? Fri. 6-14-46

They saw Harry Wills, the great fighter, who's old and very healthy, sitting on the porch and talking about how good it is to fast for a month, once each year. "You can only fast as long as there's impurities in your body," he says. He does it, and he looks as if it's a fine thing to do, but let him do it.

They saw Mickey Walker, the Toy Bulldog who now paints pictures instead of punching people. He has been around here talking patriarchal, and proudly showing his fine son, Jimmy, how well Pop is known.

They saw Freddy Fierro spraying Conn with ice-water after every round, the way an old-time Chinese laundryman used to spray the stuff he ironed. (And that scene, too, somehow took a person back to the time he peeked in the door of laundries to watch the Chinese.)

They saw Conn get a little mad in one of the six rounds. That was when Frank Poreda, a good tough, agile fighter, slugged Conn a couple times. Conn, for an instant, slammed into him—and hard. Then he eased up, as if saying to himself: "Hold it! Hold it! That's what I did in the 12th round with Louis. I got to learn to keep away!"

Then they saw Conn, looking fast and looking slim, wind up his sparring with Mike Bellusceo, and whack the punching bag around a bit. Then a few who squeezed in saw Conn lie with only a towel over him in the crowded dressing-room, while Mickey Walker delivered another homily into everybody's ears but Conn's. For Conn, that minute, had begun thinking of everything else but what Walker was saying to him. He might even have been thinking about next Wednesday night.

P.S.—Conn looked good, but who cares about some guy with a typewriter saying Conn looked good? SWIFTY.

This Morning

Post

With Shirley Povich

Pompton Lakes, N. J., June 17.—To the men who know Joe Louis best, his comrades in training camp and some of the newspaper correspondents who have been his friends through the years, it was a significant thing that the champion said today. He said:

"I feel all right here," and he dug a finger into his stomach, and then he said, "This time, I feel all right here, too," and he tapped the same finger against his head.

POVICH

That last, the expressed satisfaction of Louis with his mental approach to the fight, is important. Because he went into the last fight with Conn in something of an emotional turmoil—mostly wife trouble. They're now divorced, Joe and Marva, but she was there at the training camp yesterday and he was a happy guy. The word is that they'll re-marry.

One thing you've got to like Louis for. Never has the guy been known to alibi. He did confide a couple of weeks ago that he was overtrained for the last Conn fight and went in too light at 199 pounds, but it wasn't until nearly 5 years after the fight that he broke down with that confession. For 5 years, you never heard that Louis was at anything except his best against Conn that night in 1941. Tuesday 6-18-46

Louis' latest workouts have dispatched completely the early notion that he was slow, overweight and otherwise sluggish. Camp observers, bearing in mind the four years he spent in the Army, were quick during those early days at Pompton Lakes to observe that his punches lacked the old snap, that his thighs were big and that his sparring partners were reaching him with ease.

Throughout the adverse comment, Louis stolidly maintained that he was taking it easy, that "I'll be in shape when they tell us to start fighting." Louis never did boast, probably because he doesn't know how. Around the camp, he has been cheerful enough, even a bit jocular, but you see the real Louis when he is in there working, his face completely impassive, his actions smacking of the same old Louis, who is waiting for that one good shot.

He looked like the old Louis today, not throwing too many punches, blocking with his arms and elbows, and pawing until he saw the opening he's always looking for. He gropes more than he jabs, appearing dull perhaps for minutes at a time, but he never was the tiger man until he found the chance to hurt somebody, or already had somebody hurt.

Washington

In this fight coming up there is a wonderful absence of any feeling of a compelling need for a white man to regain the World Heavyweight Championship. Louis in the years he has held the title has been an exemplary guy, honest in his approach to everything, and as Jimmy Cannon said today, a credit to his race—meaning not the colored race, but the human race.

In this corner

Was Conn KO'd Because He "Lost His Head?"

By Bill Mardo

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

There's little left to say. The fight's a day away, and it seems slightly unreal to find it so close at hand; it still seems as if it were only yesterday when both battlers pitched camps at Pompton and Greenwood and the title tilt itself loomed as something elusive, far off in the distant future. But time has a way of whipping by, and here it is, practically the eve of the

Louis tells you frankly he isn't mad at Conn. He says he'll try to knock Conn out as quickly as he can because he doesn't want Conn to have his title, but otherwise he likes the challenger. Conn, who can say some mean things about persons he doesn't like—He has a voluble hate for Gene Tunney that occupies him by the hour—has never made reference to Louis except as "A nice guy."

The only two men Louis fought that he didn't like were Max Schmeling and Tony Galento. He didn't dislike Schmeling even after the German knocked him out, but he began to hate him a few days later when Schmeling, in interviews, referred to Louis as "Dot Chump." The most satisfactory thing Louis ever did was when he chopped Schmeling down in the first round of their return bout. Galento he tried to dismiss before the fight until Tony's continual bombast got under his epidermis.

D. C.

If Conn does lift Louis' title, it isn't going to be a washed-up Louis that he beats. In a statement yesterday that precluded any sort of post-battle alibi, Louis declared he was in the best shape he's ever been in his life, he thinks. "I feel stronger than I ever did, and I trained smart for the fight," he said. "I wasn't bothered four weeks ago when they said I looked slow."

His early workouts were another example of Louis' wonderful patience. He worked with an excellent singleness of purpose—to get in shape, and to heck with the criticism. It's the same kind of patience that he always takes into the ring with him, the impassive wait for that one good shot. Tuesday 6-18-46

In Conn's camp you hear that "Billy can win if he doesn't lose his head" and try to punch it out with the champion. Losing his head has never been a weakness of Louis, who has retained his title by a decision the three times it was necessary. The only possibility that Louis will lose his head Wednesday night is that Conn will knock it off.

Otherwise, he will be in there thinking from bell to bell.

Joe's Restaurant Proves Fine Place

The World Tues. 9-17-46 Memphis, Tenn.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(C)—Joe Louis' Restaurant, which opened on 125th Street here this week, had an opening which read like the celebrity list at the Louis-Conn ringside section of the fight. As Jimmie Durante so aptly puts it, "Everybody wants to get into the act." Count Basie, Willie Bryant, et al., were back in the kitchen touring the place with Joe and a trail of reporters—all asking various questions. When Joe donned the chef's cap and began wacking at the steaks, someone nudged Joe and asked, "Hey Champ can you cook?" Joe answered by throwing the famous Louis look.

Big Fight, and all at once I find myself thinking about that first Louis-Conn clash and some of the misconceptions that flowed from it and which, to this minute, figure prominently in all the pre-fight prognostications.

Jues 6-18-46

I'm thinking, of course, of the fancy fable that William David Conn "lost his head and tried to slug it out in the 13th round," and so let his golden chance slip away from him to the tune of 27 crushing blows that rained over his head and body at blinding speed.

Joe Louis is still champion of the world, not because Billy Conn "tried to slug it out," but solely because Louis, even under terrible duress, remained cool, methodical and the most scientific puncher of all time. Let's go back and review that much discussed bout; let's start at the beginning and trace the events through every round up to the 13th, when Conn sank slowly to the canvas after giving Louis the narrowest escape of his brilliant fistic life.

For the first three rounds, it was all Louis, as the Pittsburgh Kid showed absolutely nothing except a pair of flying feet that carried him sideways and backward through nine minutes of uneventful action as the champ kept moving in, flicking away with a left and an occasional right to the body in the hope of opening Billy up for some solid shots.

No man can win a fight with pure retreating, and so there was no doubt that Louis' aggressiveness earned him the first three stanzas.

But Conn's strategy unfolded in the fourth frame, as he began to move in and out, showering Louis with rapid lefts to the head and short rights to the midsection. Conn looked great in that round, mixing up his attack-and-retreat style beautifully, always too quick to let Joe trap him in a corner or off the ropes.

The fifth round saw the overdrawn Louis come on, catch Conn with many hard body blows and ripping rights to the head. At one point during that session, Louis had Conn in serious shape but was unable to catch him for the finisher. The sixth and seventh stanzas still saw Joe banging away with those short hooks to Conn's ribs and stomach, but never was the champion able to really rip through with one clean, decisive shot which would have stopped the shifty Pittsburgher dead in his tracks.

Conn came back in the seventh and eighth, all his stunning speed at his disposal, and quite refreshed, as he piled up points by moving in, out and around Louis, all the while darting away with that nifty left hand to Joe's face. The ninth and tenth rounds were of a similar pattern, Louis moving forward, tagging Conn with some good body blows, but completely unable to clip the clever, handsome kid who was putting on a breathtaking exhibition of fancy footwork and left-handed versatility.

Nobody seemed to pay much attention to those short bangs to the body which Louis had been scoring with, and it seemed only logical that those punches should have been more or less ignored in light of the amazing show which the handsome dancing-master from Pittsburgh was putting on. But those punches to the midsection and ribs were soon to prove vital. Jues 6-18-46

Billy Wasn't "Reckless"

That an unbelieving upset was in the process of being fashioned in the Polo Grounds that June night in 1941, seemed even more feasible as Louis could do little with his man in the 11th and 12th rounds. Conn was then blazing away with two hands, beating Joe to the punch, moving out of harm's reach whenever the heavyweight king tried to counter after Billy tore in with his own left. The 12th round, particularly, saw the Conn kid come on like a five-alarm fire, crashing in sharp and rapid left-hooks to Joe's jaw and body, while the champ stood flat-footed and caught those potshots without being able to retaliate. A particularly go d left hook to the button had Louis in trouble near the end f th 12th, as he held on to clear his head.

And while Joe Louis cou[illegible] known the official scoring count coming out for the 13th heat, he [illegible] know he was behind on points. He did know that only a kayo could keep the title in his possession. Louis scored that knockout, and it wasn't, by any stretch of the imagination, because Billy Conn "lost his head."

Conn followed exactly the same strategy in the fateful 13th that he'd been using so successfully in the 11th and 12th. Throwing his left from long-range, and then darting in to hook to the head with the same hand. What happened was that a thoroughly determined Joe Louis, anticipating the windup Conn would go into before ripping home that left hook, beat Billy to the punch with a short jaw-shattering right cross. That blow, plus the cumulative effect of Louis' body punches throughout the bout, slowed Conn down to a walk. He tried to dance out of danger, but his legs had no spring and Louis was in on him like a tiger. A left hook to the chin, a right uppercut to the same spot, three lefts, three rights, all thrown so fast ringsiders could barely follow them. And then, out of that fusilade of machine-gun barrages, Louis fired his last two punches. The three-inch hook that rocked Conn's head from side to side, and then the finisher—a crushing right that landed flush on the jaw. The game Pittsburgh kid spun slowly around and down, into an unconscious heap on the canvas.

It was all over. And let's hear no more malarkey about Conn's temper having lost the fight for him. He couldn't have possibly won had he done nothing but back-pedal for the entire fight. He realized that full well, and Conn's actions throughout the last half of the fight were based on the knowledge that he had to punch to win points—which was what he continued to do in the 13th round. Until . . . .

I'm Telling You . . .

P.M.

An old, whiskered fellow bellied up to the bar at Conn's camp on the last day of training. He turned out to be Nostradamus, lost in the shuffle. He was tops in predictions a few centuries ago.

"How do you make the fight, Nosty?" he was asked.

"Tell you the truth, Mac," he says, "the thing's got me licked. First I'm Conn, then I'm Louis, then back again. I shoulda stood in the grave."

* * *

Here is the way PM's sports staff "makes the fight":

JOHN McNULTY—At the outfit where I went to school for a while, they taught us a gadget in reasoning which is called a "syllogism." In Greek that means "a reckoning altogether." Now this is not a Greek fight, I admit, but anyway, a syllogism went like this:

1. All men are mortal. Wednesday 6-19-46
2. Socrates is a man.
3. Therefore Socrates is mortal.

Okay. So I will now go at the prediction of the fight the easy way, or along the Old Syllogism Turnpike, thus:

1. Prizefights are won by speed or punching power, and while speed oozes away from Man with the passing years, the power to punch remains.
2. Billy Conn is a speeding man, Joe Louis is a punching man and the years have not stood still for either of them.
3. Therefore Joe Louis will win, maybe in two minutes and 27 seconds of the third round.*

*This last part, after "maybe," is not true syllogism, of course, but then those teachers never did sell me 100 per cent on pure reason; I still like a little dab of mysticism with my ratiocination.

TOM MEANY—Louis will knock out Conn inside of 10 rounds. Admitting both have gone back from their respective peaks of five years ago, the last thing a fighter loses is his punch. Joe can't throw that padded dynamite as rapidly as he once could but Billy can't step around as fast as he could in 1941. The length of the fight depends entirely upon how soon Joe hits Billy with enough authority to slow him up. Once that happens, Louis can go to work on Conn and belt him out.

New York, N.Y.

TOM O'REILLY—This touch is softer than a peeled grape. Picking the winner of this fight is easy as finding a bashed beak in Stillman's gym. How can Conn lose? Figure the business angles:

1. The money is already in the till. So what will Louis gain by winning? Nothing.
2. It will be poor business for Louis to win. If he licks Conn the only bums left to fight him wouldn't draw mosquitoes in Hackensack.
3. Do you think Louis is silly enough to knock off a possible $4,000,000 gate in 1947?
4. All Conn must do to win is stay away from the guy. He doesn't need to fight. Remember, one judge scored Arturo Godoy, that South American rhumba dancer, ahead of Louis in their first fight. All Godoy did was squat down like a turtle, leaving nothing to hit but his derriere.

I pick Louis to knock out Conn in less than eight rounds.

* * *

HEYWOOD HALE BROUN—Ever since the first Schmeling fight made a lot of experts feel uncomfortable, there has been a sort of fault-finding campaign about Joe Louis and before every fight some new flaw is found in his armor as a kind of precaution against another shattering fall off a limb. For a while it was that he couldn't take a punch, then it was that he would miss Jack Blackburn's Machiavellian planning, now it is said that he has slowed up. I don't think he ever was fast and nobody laughed about my Louis-Schmeling prediction except the boys in high school. I think Joe Louis is great and that he is a cinch tonight to knock out Conn. I think he is the kind of guy who deserves to be champion. Everybody says Conn is fearless but I don't think that's such an asset against Joe. Fearless isn't a synonym for smart, and Conn was fearless last time, too. Oh, yes, the time. Sixth round and still champion! Wed. 6-19-46

* * *

STAN TULLSEN—Louis in six or less. Joe still has his punch and that's enough.

JIM RUSSELL—As we used to say at Lords, ol' Joe will 'it 'im for six.

JACK MAHON—I think Conn will win the title this time. He's strong, tough and knows it's now or never. I wouldn't be surprised if he stiffened Louis in the late rounds. Make it about the thirteenth. That's no joke, either, son.

* * *

This summary might be a hint to the correct odds—7 to 1, favor Louis.

SWIFTY.

Divine Claims Credit for Louis Ring Prowess

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md
Sat. 10-5-46

PHILADELPHIA

Father Divine, addressing followers at one of his missions here, last week assumed personal responsibility for Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis's success as a prize fighter.

The cult leader, who recently made headlines when he wed a pretty white worshiper, said he decided before Louis was born to transmit what he called the "spirit of supremacy in sports" to a colored fighter.

The purpose of this, he pointed out, was not to make the colored man a better athlete but rather to show that he is equal to the whites and to let "the general public and world at large, see and know, supremacy is not bound to races, creeds or colors!"

Louis apparently was the chosen man and, according to Father Divine, "when he was born, the transmission of the spirit of my prophecy and declaration was re-incarnated in him for the world for which he was predestined to reign as king in."

The self-proclaimed God hinted that if Louis become critical of his remarks he would lose his title, adding "I gave him his energy and I gave him his gift."

SPORTS TRAIN

By Rick Hurt

JOE LOUIS WILL PUT BILLY CONN AWAY before the fifth round. That's my prediction, and there it is for all the world to see, and if it's wrong, don't plague me the day after the big battle with one of those supercilious grins and a "what was that prediction of yours?" Even if the fight goes the distance, which I doubt, Joe will emerge "the winner and still champion." And by a wide margin. That you can bet on. Yeah, even the rent money.

Rick Hurt

I argue my case on several solid facts and observations. A popular phrase, **"don't fight Joe a second time"** is one which a great deal of people are overlooking. The reasons for the phrase are important. Remember Max Schmeling? The only man to win over Joe in his professional career, and that by a twelfth-round kayo? He right-handed Louis into oblivion on June 19, 1936 in New York City.

In their return meeting on June 22, 1938, the German, who had astounded the world by toppling over Joe, rated the best chance to win over Joe of any fighter ever to fight Joe a second time.

But what happened? Schmeling was dragged out of the ring in the first round, a whipped, beaten, and injured man.

For Joe never makes the same mistake twice. And he doesn't allow his opponent the liberty of a repeated mistake. He has a photographic memory on which is etched every move that a fighter makes, his punches, his faults and flaws. A master of analysis, the champ learns a lesson at one sitting. Louis in the ring has been labeled a "deadpan," and some people have mistaken his lack of outer emotion as dullness—a lack of perception. Nothing could be further from the truth. Behind that blank exterior is a razor-sharp mind that is functioning at a fast clip. Shuffling Joe is not just shuffling along; he's waiting for his opponent to make a wrong move. Louis doesn't believe in wasted motion, and is content on most occasions to wait it out. (The Schmeling second encounter wasn't one of the occasion. Joe hated the German.) And when the opening comes, the Bomber goes into action.

Al Hoosman, Joe's sparring partner, attended one of the sparring drills at the Greenwood Lake camp of Billy Conn last week. Asked by reporters for his impression of the chances of the challender, the Los Angeles fighter replied, **"Conn will do all right until Joe drops that bomb on him."**

Some of the second-time victims of Louis and the rounds they lasted were: Lee Ramage, kayoed in eighth in the first bout, lasted only two in the second encounter; Natie Brown was flattened in four rounds after having lasted the distance of ten rounds. Bob Pastor, who bicycled the full ten rounds in 1937, ran out of gas in the eleventh round of the second match in 1939.

Arturo Godoy, the South American "hope," went fifteen rounds with Joe in February, 1940, only to be kayoed in eight four months later. Joe flattened Abe Simon in thirteen rounds the first encounter—took only six to do it the second time they met. Buddy Baer, who went out of the ring the loser in the seventh round in Washington in 1941, was chilled in the first round on January 9, 1942, in a Naval Relief Benefit show in New York City.

No fighter who has met Louis a second time has gone the distance. **And those fighters who have been knockout victims of the Bomber were without exception flattened in shorter time when they went up against the dynamite-laden fists of Louis a second time.**

* * *

WHICH BRINGS UP THE CASE of Billy Conn versus Louis. There are few extenuating circumstances which lend me to conclude that Billy Conn's second encounter will not follow the familiar pattern of precedent. Methodical Joe, never a boastful chap, but yet quite mindful of his enviable reputation, will be out to continue his streak of quick kayoes over "two-time losers."

Despite the reams of copy that the writers have been turning out on the relative training-camp showings of the two fighters, with Conn's workouts looking "brilliant," "fast," "great" and Louis "slow," "not-too-impressive," "far-behind that of the challenger," the situation today is basically the same as that of five years ago. Sat 6-15-46

True, both fighters are five years older, with Joe at 32 four years the senior of Billy. True also is the observation that five years will make a difference. **But this difference will be in the champ's favor. For in those five years, Conn will have lost some of his speed—his chief weapon and the main factor in his lasting thirteen rounds against Louis. But Joe will not have lost his punch, and if you recall, that is what "settled the argument" in the first setto.**

Both men are good boxers, and although Billy led on points going into the thirteenth, I do not interpret that as meaning that Conn is the better boxer, or that Louis would have necessarily lost the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth rounds,—and the fight.

Joe stilled an oft-repeated story Saturday at Pompton Lakes when he told a group of newsmen that Jack Blackburn did not say to him, at the end of the twelfth, "You're losing this fight, Chappie."

What Blackburn did say, Joe attests, was this: **"You're letting him make you fight his kind of fight."** And Joe answered, **"O.K., I'll knock him out in this round."** "And I was lucky enough to make good on it," Joe said.

The champ, quietly confident, believes that he will win on points if the fight goes the distance, and surprised reporters by saying, "I think I would have won the first fight on points too." Questioned at length about various phases of the first Conn fight, Joe brought out the following pertinent points:

Conn did not "make the mistake" of slugging with Joe. "Billy was not slugging with me when he got knocked out. He had done a good bit of slugging in the twelfth, but in the thirteenth he didn't do a lot of slugging. I saw an opening, crossed my right, and that was it."

Conn did not hurt him in the twelfth. "No, Conn didn't hurt me in the twelfth. He hooked me in the stomach, and I pulled away, trying to avoid it. I knew what I was doing. And I also knew what Conn was doing," the champ said with whimsy.

Asked whether he would pursue Conn if the challenger proved reluctant to stand and fight, Joe answered: **"I'll let him run. He can run, you see, but he can't hide."**

"Do you expect to show anything new, Joe?"

"No, I don't expect to show anything new. I'll be stronger for this fight, however, than I was for the last one. No, I don't think Conn can show anything new, either."

Told that Conn was working on a liver-punch, Joe said, "Hum, liver, that's my dish."

"Joe, they say that if Conn lasts past the fifth that he will win on points," a reported said. "I'll not concede that," another reporter shouted. "You can bet on that," Joe responded to that observation.

"He won't get away this time," Joe stated simply, commenting on the statement that Conn had gotten away in the second and fifth rounds when Louis had him on the verge of a kayo.

I repeat—look for an early knockout. Billy Conn's chin hasn't gotten any harder, the champ hasn't lost his punch, and Louis will have the route to the challenger's chin well-mapped out when the two "come out fighting."

New York.

Joe's Libel Suit Against Magazine Dropped

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

CHICAGO—(ANP)—At the request of William Temple, attorney for Joe Louis, heavyweight boxing champion, the $100,000 libel suit against Ebony Magazine was dismissed here last Wednesday by Circuit Judge Thomas J. Courtney. According to Louis' attorney, the magazine's editors promised to print a retraction in the September issue of a picture story printed in May. Sat. 8-17-46

Louis, the leader

Tribune

Begging the indulgence of its sports staff, the TRIBUNE officially would like to wish the best to Joe Louis, heavyweight boxing champion of the world, on the eve of his widely publicized match with formidable Billy Conn.

Along with millions of other Americans, both white and black, we shall be bitterly disappointed if Louis does not rock Conn to sleep Wednesday night in that distinctive style of his which has the earnestness of a mother's devotion and the deadliness of a Lethean potion.

Properly, we suppose, we belong to that segment of the racial population, which from Olympian heights, smoulders volcanically whenever well meaning, but tactless, whites, naming the virtues and attributes of the Negro race, put the name of Joe Louis first. A fighter, we snarl behind clenched teeth, is hardly to be regarded as a leader, nor his fighting as a cultural contribution. Remembering our suspension in embarrassment every time Joe Louis begins to speak via newsreel, radio, or from the public platform — appearing absolutely unteachable as he drawls, still in the patois of the Alabama cotton picker, his succinct point of view—we collapse into discouragement before the almost impossible task of teaching Mr. Average White Man that Joe Louis, the heavyweight king, is not also Joe Louis, the leader of 14,000,000 Negroes.

Obviously that is snobbery of the first order and we hereby confess to it. Like all snobbishness, it is unrealistic and short-sighted, we know.

Let Joe Louis be called a leader, if you will. He most certainly is one. If leadership is reckoned in numbers of persons persuaded to point of view or action, Louis is probably the greatest leader the Negro has today.

We are reminded of a picture we saw recently, in which Louis was caught in the act of smashing a powerful fist into the mid-section of a dummy as a trio of white soldiers looked on. All the whites were from southern states, and each of their faces alike was glowing with a whole-hearted admiration that utterly consumed racial condescension.

Multiply those young men by all the young men, old men, young women, old women, of all the races of the earth which consider themselves superior to the black men, and you arrive at the number of people Joe Louis has influenced in one degree or another in the Negro's behalf.

Worshipping force as the average man does, Joe Louis occupies a shrine only slightly less than a machine gun, and though whites may not confess it, their regard for the race which produced him is increased.

Admiring affluence as we all do, the millions Louis' fists have earned for himself and others in a decade of fighting also add to the race's credit.

Compelled to a respect for dignity as we all are, the bearing of Joe Louis has forced respect for his race in the exact proportion that unseemly behaviour would have brought down upon the race's head contempt.

Joe Louis has contributed neither philosophy nor letters to the Negro's cause, we grant, but simple, untaught Alabama farm boy though he is, he has lived a philosophy and thereby made a niche for himself in history as a dynamic figure on a par with many in 'belles lettres'.

Los Angeles California Saturd. 6-15-46

Quipster's Holiday By Walter Winchell

Newsaac Herald 10-3-46

AT THE COPA, the champ of cafe comedians (Joe E. Lewis) said to heavyweight champ Louis: "Joe, you know you're not getting any younger. Suppose some young upstart comes along and knocks you out. What'll you do?"

Poker-faced Joe reflected a moment and said "I'll sign him up."

News-Age-Herald Birmingham, Ala. Sun

Roxborough Leaves Prison On Probation

The Informer Houston, Texas

LANSING—(ANP) — John Roxborough, former manager of heavyweight champion Joe Louis who was convicted on charges of conspiracy to obstruct justice in 1944, was released from the Southern Michigan prison Friday and placed on probation for 18 months. Sat. 9-21-46

BILLY... Rowe's NOTE BOOK

INTIMATE OBSERVATIONS

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 9-21-46

NEW YORK—Jimmy Powers, caustic sports editor of the New York Daily News, bared the metal fangs of his typewriter last week and lashed out with intoxicating fury against Mike Jacobs and Joe Louis. Said he: "Mike Jacobs is blamed by Harlem friends of Joe Louis for the Brown Bomber's fall from grace. In fact among the more cultured and religious members of his race, the Joe Louis 'myth' and the 'God-is-on-our-side' legends are being rapidly exploded. Mike is again using Joe as a financial bath mat, wiping his feet on him and using him for his own profit. Mike paqs Joe $18,000 a year to 'front' for the new 'Joe Louis Grill.' Mike owns fifty-one per cent of the stock. What particularly irks the Harlemites is that Mike has installed seven white cashiers over Joe's objections. As Harlem critics see it, first, Joe permitted his Negro managers to be shunted aside while Mike raked in their profits; second, his divorce; third, Joe wound up like any washed-up bum, running a gin mill. The only thing left, a Harlem sportswriter tells us, is for Joe to get whipped, and that would be the tragic end of a fine fellow who started out on a high religious and moral plane."

When Powers wrote the above he must have been deep in the lower jungles of Manhattan, hanging over his favorite bar, suffering from an inertia of mind brought on by too much to drink. His ingenuity for distortion is amazing for one in so high a position. What he had to say turned out to be an inglorious paragraph with hate and lack of facts its only ingredients and he gave it the intonations of an intolerant writer.

V——HATE AND INTOLERANCE——V

In answering Powers, one could come right out and call him a liar, but so many so-called friends of Louis have seen and believed what he had to say, some sort of explanation is necessary. Taking his article to task point by point, it can first be proven that the Champ has done anything but fall from grace. The same day that his piece appeared, Joe was selected in his own paper as the most popular man in Harlem. Having always been inerrant in all his dealings, Joe has yet to do anything to bring discredit to himself, his race or his country. To call him a "myth" is to trample in the dust the mosaic of Abraham Lincoln, the legend of George Washington. In achievements he need bow to no man, white or colored. He has done more for the race than any living man and has thrown a favorable light on American democracy. In fact he has been the one ray of hope on the stormy horizon of hate and intolerance which has highlighted man's inhumanity to man in so many sections of our country since the clash of armed men all over the world. The Brown Bomber isn't "fronting" for Jacobs in his latest bar-restaurant venture. The impresario of swat does not own 51 per cent of the stock, in fact he has no interest in the 125th Street edifice at all. On the inside from the beginning, we know that Joe owns the controlling stock in the place over and above one of the best financial deals he has made in a long time. When the place was planted in a hole in the ground to grow into a three hundred thousand dollar bar and restaurant, Mike Jacobs and his lawyer fought tooth and nail with Louis Brooks, the main partner, to see that Joe was given everything that was coming to him. They gave no quarter and accepted none. Many times the deal was almost called off and each time in Joe's interest.

V——CANNOT BE DESTROYED——V

There are no white cashiers in the place, but Eddie Green whom Joe hired and a young lady, both colored, who came to him for a job. Most of the top ranking workers in the place, in the boss class, were hired by Joe who knew them when. The one white waiter in the place was brought in by the colored headwaiter for opening night aid, but now even he is gone. We won't discuss Joe's divorce and feel that Powers had no right to do so. Much closer to the situation than the News' know-it-all, we can see no reason why the Champ should lose grace or face because of it. Kings and queens do it so why not Joe and Marva since they were so inclined. Joe's break with Julian Black is also a personal matter and we see no reason to love any one of them the less. John Roxborough is still his manager and neither Mike Jacobs nor any other man in the world could unseat him because Joe is not that kind of a guy, and neither is he a fool, which is exactly what he would have to be, to be pushed around by Mike Jacobs the way Powers tried to make believe. Where he got that washed-up stuff from is beyond us and strikes with more madness than method. If you have to be a bum to run a bar-restaurant, then there are a lot of bums throughout the world. Jack Dempsey seems to be doing alright with his venture, selling about ninety thousand dollars worth of food and liquor per month for a neat profit. However, this latest plunge by Louis isn't his only holding. There is the All-American Drink Corp., several holdings in Detroit and Chicago to say nothing of various other deals yet in the cooking stage. Joe can't go on fighting all his life and it is important that he look to other pastures while his swan song is being composed, for to wait until time for the maestro to strike up the band on the finished composition would be the real tragedy. Win, lose, or draw, in any fight that he may have from here in, Joe Louis can but only go down in history as one of the greatest sports figures to ever thrill the multitude. We are not in a position to know what Powers has against Mike Jacobs, but it is strange that the two men, Branch Rickey being the other one, who have shown their willingness to help Negroes, are at the top of his hate list. However, we do know that Joe Louis came to the center of the stage in greatness to walk in glory and with indelible care, stamp his name upon its immortal slate, untouchable by the indignity of Jimmy Powers. *Sat. 9-21-46*

THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

Powers Discredits Louis

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 9-21-46

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—Once again Jimmy (Jitterbug) Powers of the New York Daily News has whipped out his filthy, prejudiced pen and stabbed it into a great Negro athlete. Powers is the sneering, blood-thirsty bigot who has no regard for decency or reason when he wants to tear some one down. Usually it is best to ignore such scatterbrains. But it so happens that he is in a position to mold public opinion through his newspaper. He has a bigger weapon to swing than most of those people who take pleasure in jumbling the truth and then heaping it upon the unsuspecting public. That is why he is dangerous. He's another Bilbo—in Northern clothing!

During Spring training last March, Powers—through subtle and misleading statements—inferred that Jackie Robinson was being victimized by Branch Rickey; that the Negro second baseman would have been much happier had he remained in Negro baseball. Such inferences, of course, were clearly out of order and simply exposed his seething bitterness over the entrance of Negro players in organized baseball.

Powers' latest attack is on Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, one of the cleanest, most honest and most sincere athletes of all time. But that means nothing to "Frothing Jimmy," who is now taking shots at Louis that he wouldn't have the fortitude and guts to throw if confronted with the Champion face to face.

* * *

They Wouldn't Speak to Him

In his column last week Powers wrote the following trite: "Mike Jacobs is blamed by Harlem friends of Joe Louis for the Brown Bomber's fall from grace. In fact, among the more cultured and religious members of his race, the Joe Louis "myth" and the "God-is-on-our-side" legends are being rapidly exploded. Mike is again using Joe as a financial bath mat, wiping his feet on him and using him for his own profit."

In trying to justify his "slop," Powers refers to the cultured and religious members of Louis' race. Well, we'll throw that out of the window because I doubt that the cultured and religious members of Joe Louis' race would have any truck with the likes of a Jimmy Powers. In the above paragraph, Powers is taking shots at Mike Jacobs and is using Louis as the pawn. Actually, Jacobs is helping the Champion get on his financial feet again. And he isn't using Louis for his own profit any more than Powers is through the pages of his newspaper.

Later on in the article, "Prejudiced Jim" quotes from people he calls "Harlem critics" in order to take a sucker punch at the man who donated one of his purses to the Navy in which Powers ate and slept during the war. Here is what Powers' Harlem critics are alleged to have said: (1) Joe permitted his Negro managers to be shunted aside while Mike raked in their profits. (2) Louis' divorce. (Inferring that the Champion lost his prestige when he got same.) (3) Joe wound up like any washed-up bum, running a gin mill.

* * *

Restaurant Cost $300,000

Now let's get down to cases and look at the record.

In the first place, Louis' Negro managers were not shunted aside. He severed relations entirely with one because they didn't exactly see eye-to-eye. Like any other business man, Louis failed to renew his contract with Julian Black at the end of five years. However, his other manager, John Roxborough, is still "in" and Joe's closest friend.

On the matter of the divorce: Joe Louis' private life is his own business. Certainly he did arrange to provide handsomely for his wife when they agreed to part. Powers just stuck that little "bite" in his column because he happens to be a vicious termite.

Powers calls that new $300,000 restaurant bearing Louis' name a "gin mill." That's probably because he hates to see such an edifice erected in Harlem. Maybe he thinks it's too good for the people who live there. You folks can never tell what the members of Bilbo's clan are thinking, you know. And as for Louis being a washed-up bum, I'd like to point out that he's still the Heavyweight Champion of the world. Powers probably can't tell a bum when he sees one. He should look in a mirror.

* * *

Sparring Aound the Taining Camp . . .

Trainer Manny Seamon says Louis is a better fighter now than he ever was . . . Due to the truck strike in New York, the papers suffered a newsprint shortage. Stories on the fight were cut to the bone. It had less publicity than any heavyweight championship bout in years. . . . Louis gets $1,500 for all commercial programs on which he appears. . . . The press corps was feted with corn-on-the-cob at each training session last week. Publicity Chief Harry Mandel was the hospitable host . . . Bob Williams, the No. 1 rooter for the Birmingham Black Barons, arrived in town for the fight singing the praises of Piper Davis, flashy second baseman with the Barons. Says he is as good, perhaps better, as the International League batting champion, Jackie Robinson . . . Louis is pulling for the Dodgers to win the National League pennant. When Rickey signed Robinson last year, the Champ became a rabid Dodger fan . . . Charley Glenn of Chicago's "Rhumboogie" fame arrived Saturday . . . Bob Greer, who, like Manager Marshall Miles, hails from Buffalo, keeps strict check on the visitors to the big house where the Champ eats and sleeps. *Sat. 9-21-46*

George Fitch, Champ's No. 1 sparring partner, had to rush home last week to be with his young son who was seriously ill. As soon as the child passed the critical stage, George rushed back to camp for more tussles with Boss Louis . . . Freddy Wilson is the camp's shuffle-board champion . . . Jimmy Edgar, crack Detroit middleweight, has been training for his coming fight in the Motor City with Cocoa Kid . . . Manager Marshall Miles is sporting a brand new Cadillac . . . Crowds picked up at camp on Saturday and Sunday . . . The Champ has been offered a fat contract to fight in Brazil . . . Ditto for Mexico . . . A sculptor has made a model of Joe's famous fists. They will be sold in stores throughout the country soon . . . Theresa Hotel jammed with fight fans again . . . Fans in the Bronx held a parade for Tami on Saturday . . . Lou Krem, another official member of the camp party, picked Louis to win in three rounds.

PM New York, N.Y. Tues. 10-8-46

Champion Joe Louis delivers a left hook to open the drive against venereal disease. The campaign, sponsored by the American Social Hygiene Assn., was launched in a ceremony on the steps of City Hall yesterday. Mayor O'Dwyer proclaimed Oct. 7 through Nov. 7 as "Stamp Out VD Month" and urged everyone to help the Association to raise $300,000 to wage its fight.

Photo by Bernie Aumuller, PM

BEFORE THE BIG SLEEP

The Times New York, N.Y.

Sculpture of Joe Louis' Hands, in Hitting Pose, Unveiled

Aug. 9-24-46

Joe Louis' fists in a hitting pose, modeled by Ray Shaw, sculptress, were unveiled yesterday afternoon in ceremonies in Miss Shaw's studios, 1366 Avenue of the Americas, by Abe Green, president of the National Boxing Association.

The work is the latest of Miss Shaw, a sculptress exclusively of hands. The last sitting took place at Pompton Lakes the Sunday before the Louis-Mauriello fight.

Guests at the ceremony included Bill Robinson, Dean Dixon, Alan Baxter, Roslyn Tureck, Betty Garrett and Larry Winter.

CRITICIZES MIKE JACOBS

Times

Miller, N. B. A. Head, Hits Match of Louis and Mauriello

New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON, July 25 (AP)—Col. Harvey W. Miller, executive secretary of the National Boxing Association, said today that Promoter Mike Jacobs has such a monopoly in New York that he can operate with only the box office in mind.

"And monopolies," he added, "are no good in any line of endeavor."

Friday 7-26-46

Miller, in a statement, was sharply critical of the matchmaking that will bring Tami Mauriello into the ring against Joe Louis for the heavyweight championship.

"Mauriello and Jersey Joe Walcott should have been matched, with the winner meeting Louis," Miller said. "Then, at least, the public would have gotten the one best available challenger."

"But here the box-office angle enters with the argument, 'Why stage one fight when you can stage two?' Then there's the other argument that two colored fellows do not draw.

7-26-46

"Regardless of color or the box office, the definite No. 1 challenger should get the title match."

Roxborough "Still the Main Cheese" --- Louis

POMPTON LAKES, N.J. — Advised that John Roxborough, his former manager and the man credited with his rise to fistic fame, had been given a parole from his Michigan State prison term, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis told newspaper men on Saturday, "That's swell."

The Bomber was asked how it would affect him with respect to managers.

"Roxy's still the main cheese," Joe replied without hesitation.

"You think a lot of him, don't you, Joe?" another reporter wanted to know.

"He's just like a father to me," Louis came back quickly.
—SAM LACY.

People from All Walks Greet Joe Louis's $500,000 Cocktail Lounge

(See Photos on Picture Page)

NEW YORK — More than 400 celebrities and friends of heavyweight champ Joe Louis turned out en masse for the opening of his new, luxurious Harlem restaurant at 11 W. 125 St. last Wednesday.

On hand to wish Joe well in his business undertaking were Bill Robinson, President of the City Council Vincent R. Impellitterri, fighters Bob Olin and ex-welterweight champ Barney Ross, white, as well as sports writers from every newspaper in the country.

Jinx Falkenburg, screen and radio actress, interviewed Louis and Bill Robinson over the NBC network, which was broadcast coast-to-coast.

Eyes on Joe

"This is a grand opening, a tribute to one of the greatest men of our time," said Bill. "Joe turned the whole world around for his people when he became champ. When you're just a bootblack, nobody's watching you and what you do; but when you are big like Joe, you've got a whole lot to worry about.

The Afro-American

"Joe is watched because he is champ. When he makes a mistake, I will have Hitler do the 'Black Bottom' at the Apollo Theatre here in Harlem. My greatest asset is that Joe is my friend."

Before being introduced to radio listeners, Bill pulled two quarters out of his pocket, in a neat radio trick, and bounced them on a table in an illusion of his doing a dance step. He told the audience he is 68 and not a young man any longer, but that it made him feel 20 years younger to be present on this occasion.

Baltimore, Md.

"One thing I am sure of . . . Joe is a fine gentleman and he will be one until the day he dies," Bojangles predicted.

Sat. 9-14-46

Jinx Falkenberg asked Bill if he would go into his dance. He laughed, and said no, because Louis had just given him a nice steak and potatoes and it would be against his religion to dance now. He said that Joe's friends from Chicago, Detroit and New York were here, and that he knew the champ appreciated that more than money.

"This is the nicest bar and restaurant I ever walked into," he concluded.

The champ, called on to say a few words, said: "I want to thank the newspapermen and all my friends for coming here."

Mr. Impellitteri declared: "We wish Joe Louis every success here that he had as champ, and if I know things right, I know he will make the most successful restaurant in New York City."

The champ never looked better as he greeted friends and reporters. He wore a tailor-made, grey, striped suit that emphasized the width of his enormous shoulders.

Eats and drinks were on the house. The bar was thrown wide open for everybody in the place. Outside the restaurant, mounted police kept thousands of people in check on both sides of the sidewalk, extending from Fifth to Lenox Avenues.

Mr. Impellitteri unveiled a huge, 100-foot mural adorning the west wall of the half-million-dollar restaurant, portraying such famous personages as Booker T. Washington, Marian Anderson, Paul Robeson, Dr. George Washington Carver, Bill Robinson and many others.

It is estimated the restaurant has a seating capacity of 500. What is called the nation's largest bar is built in the center of the room. It is of mahogany and rosewood, with a huge oval inverted bowl above for indirect lighting.

Murals Adorn Walls

Murals interspersed with large mirrors adorn the walls. A dais in the center of the bar is provided for musicians who will entertain the guests. Furniture is of modern design, of chrome tubing with green and white leather upholstery. Table tops are of white formica. Floors throughout are of magnesite and asphalt tile.

Red and silver striped fireproof draperies are hung across the windows facing the street.

The restaurant is air-conditioned throughout by means of a 50-ton air-conditioning unit.

The kitchen is equipped with modern stainless steel equipment. There are 4 large ranges, 3 broilers, 3 deep-fat fryers, plate warmers, 6 built-in ice boxes, a built-in refrigerated cabinet for salads, and other modern conveniences.

Special Bakery

A special room houses the electric steam dishwashing equipment which sterilizes china, silverware and glassware. The basement houses additional large walk-in refrigerated rooms for meat, dairy products, vegetables and other foods.

Some food preparation is also handled in the basement, which is equipped with electric potato peelers and other large appliances. Downstairs there is also a large room for dry storage or vegetables and other foods, these being stored on roomy shelves.

All baking is done on the premises, in a special bakery equipped with large bake ovens, electric mixers and other equipment. The large wine cellar is located downstairs, and a photography darkroom facilitates on-the-spot photography.

Downstairs are separate locker rooms and baths for the kitchen staff, with similar facilities for dining room and bar crews. The personnel of the restaurant will number around 300, including a corps of 16 chefs.

There is a parking lot in the rear of the building to provide free parking space for guests.

Refuse Louis As Candidate For Who's Who

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 9-21-46

By LOUISE STEPHENS

"Joe Louis Barrow: American gentleman and, since 1937, boxing champion of the world."

This name was recommended on August 23 for inclusion in Who's Who in America, world famous biographical reference book.

The recommendation was rejected, the Defender learned exclusively this week.

Joe Louis Barrow was not acceptable as a candidate for inclusion in Who's Who.

The recommendation, made by Professor John W. Parker, of the English department of the Fayetteville (North Carolina) Teachers' College, was received by the A. N. Marquis Publishing Co., 210 E. Ohio st., Chicago, publishers of Who's Who.

At the same time, Prof. Parker made two other recommendations. The first of these, also a Negro, was accepted—almost of necessity—since he is the president of a land-grant college. (Presidents of major colleges are automatically listed in Who's Who.)

Third Suggested

The third name suggested by Professor Parker—that of another college professor—was accepted by the editor of Who's Who for inclusion in the Monthly Supplement, a Marquis publication, which wedges the gap of two years between biennial editions of the parent-volume, Who's Who in America.

Into this supplement go the names of "news-prominent" men and women who have—for any commendable reason—been mentioned in the public prints.

Despite this fact, Louis was not deemed worthy of inclusion even in the supplement.

At no time since 1937—while his name was being blazoned in headlines in newspapers across the country—has Louis been considered "news-prominent" by the publishers of Who's Who. In the entire nine years of his world championship he has not been asked for a biographical sketch.

When this was pointed out to the editor of the Marquis publications, he said:

"Oh—Joe? He can't read or write! We'd never get an answer from him anyway. Besides—we don't include many—."

Inaudible Words

His last words were inaudible.

What is it that Who's Who fails to include?

Athletes?

In the April 6, 1946 issue of the Saturday Evening Post, in an article entitled "How To Get Your Name In Who's Who," it was reported:

"Athletes are now listed if they appear to have some lasting degree of reputation."

The facts in this Saturday Evening Post article were furnished by Wheeler Sammons (joint owner with Mrs. Sammons of the A. N. Marquis Co.), and the article presumably correctly stated the policy of the firm.

Further evidence that athletes are acceptable—at least for the supplement—is seen in the fact that during August research workers

of the Marquis Co., were instructed to request biographical sketches from national league baseball players and a large number of golf professionals. *The Defender*

In addition, on page 2,400 of Vol. 24 (the most recent) of Who's Who in America appears a biographical sketch of Gene Tunney.

Details of Tunney's boxing career are included at some length: ". . . won light heavyweight championship of A.E.F., in Paris, April, 1919; began professional career as a boxer, 1919; won championship from Jack Dempsey, Sept. 23, 1926; return engagement at Chicago (receipts $2,280,000), 1927; retired undefeated 1928."

Since a former heavyweight champion now is listed in Who's Who, it appears certain that Louis was rejected on grounds of race—because he is a Negro.

Others Listed *Chicago, Ill*

Marian Anderson, noted Negro singer, and Langston Hughes, nationally known as a poet and dramatist, are both listed in Who's Who—suggesting, together with the listing of many Negro educators—that racial discrimination, without qualification, will not satisfactorily explain Louis' exclusion from all Marquis publications. *Sat. 9-21-46*

Tunney is also listed in Vol. 4 of Who's Who in Commerce and Industry as "former chairman of the American Distilling Co."

It is likely that he may originally have been listed by virtue of business rather than athletic achievement. But a former chairmanship is not sufficient reason, by published Marquis standards, for his current listing in Volume 24 of Who's Who in America. His only recent activity which might merit such listing is that as commander in the Navy in World War II when he acted as Navy physical fitness director. But since this office came to him by virtue of his civilian athletic achievement, his current listing in Who's Who still depends on his career as an athlete.

Consequently—if Tunney, why not Louis?

A thorough research job indicates that Louis has never since 1937 been asked to furnish a biographical sketch for any of the numerous Marquis publications. It follows that Who's Who—and its editor—have no information about possible business affiliations of Louis, which might make him eligible for either Who's Who in America or Who's Who in Commerce and Industry—without consideration for his championship title.

Nothing On Louis

The A. N. Marquis Co., does not have in its files any information about Louis' business affairs.

Nor does the A. N. Marquis Co., have in its files written evidence—or any evidence—to substantiate the editor's report that Mr. Louis is unable to read or write.

In fact—bluntly—the A. N. Marquis Co., does not have Joe Louis in its files—in any way, shape, or form.

And, apparently, for some "deep" reason—doesn't want him there.

JOE LOUIS LOSES AUTO

The Times

Fighter Reports Theft of New $5,000 Vehicle on Heights

Joe Louis, heavyweight boxing champion, reported to the police of the West 152nd Street station yesterday that his new $5,000 Cadillac sedan had been stolen early in the morning from in front of 474 West 158th Street. *New York, N.Y.*

Mr. Louis said he and his chauffeur had left the car in front of the West 158th Street address while he visited friends, and that it was gone when they came back out at 4:30 A. M. *Sun. 10-6-46*

Louis' $100,000 Libel Suit Dropped

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Wed. [illegible]-46

CHICAGO—(ANP)— At the request of William Temple, attorney for Joe Louis, heavyweight boxing champion the $100,000 libel suit against Ebony magazine was dismissed here last Wednesday by Circuit Judge Thomas J. Courtney. According to Louis' attorney, the magazine's editors promised to print a retraction in the September issue of a picture story printed in May.

Roxborough is still manager, says Joe Louis

The Tribune *Los Angeles, Calif.* *Sat. 9-21-46*

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—Since his release from the Army, heavyweight champion Joe Louis has never made any bones about whom he morally considered as his manager. After his title defense against Billy Conn last June he sent greetings over the radio to John Roxborough, then in Jackson, Mich., state prison, on a numbers racket rap, called him manager.

Last week he said it again in an interview with the press, just before his second postwar title defense against challenger Tami Mauriello. Said the champ in effect papers or no papers, Roxborough is still my manager.

"He's a fine man. He's like my father."

Louis was first the co-property of Chicago businessman Julian Black and Roxborough, but the contract expired in 1942, during Louis' hitch in the Army. Black and Louis hadn't gotten along for some time then, so when contract renewal time came around, Joe wouldn't sign.

Until Roxborough is released Oct. 4, he is without civil rights and affection notwithstanding, Louis can't officially sign him back on as manager.

Joe Louis owes it all to Father Divine

Tribune *Los Angeles, Calif.* *Sat. 10-5-46*

By L. W. LOMAX, Jr.

Father Divine gets around with his miracles, works in mysterious ways his wonders to perform. And sometimes nobody knows they are his copyrights until weeks after they're passed.

More than two weeks ago, heavyweight champion Joe Louis atomized tubby Bronx challenger Tami Mauriello in 2:09 of the first round and in less than two-minutes more the whole world knew that he had. But what they didn't know was that his victory was part and parcel of Father Divine's bounty. He says.

In the NEW DAY, his printed word, this week, he let the world in on another miracle: when Joe Louis was born "the transmission of the spirit of my prophecy and declaration was re-incarnated in him for the world in which he was predestined (by me) to reign as king in. . ."

"He did not know anything about it; his parents did not know anything about it," revealed Father Divine.

Then Father Divine warmed to his miracle and revealed where he got the inspiration to make Louis champion. After Jack Johnson lost the title, he said, "it was declared that another so-and-so would never ascend so high in the ring, would never become world's heavyweight champion." By way of settling this matter, he transferred the lightning into Joe's fists, God-likely:

"By transmission and re-incarnation he became the imbibeation of the spirit of Supremacy in the world in which he functioned,"

"Color has nothing to with it," he posted the world, adding that Joe had better be grateful withal:

'Now I hope Mr. Louis will not be critical when he hears what I have said. (I never released this to the public before.) Because if he does, he will lose out! I gave him his energy and I gave him his gift."

ON THE CUFF

Defender *Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-21-46*

NEW YORK (ANP) — Opening of Joe Louis' bar restaurant was the talk of the town since Sept. 5. A cross sectional impression of how local townspeople felt about the ornately-decorated spot was most interesting to me: Two-thirds of the curious asked a perfectly natural question: "Does Louis really own the joint outright?"

The trade winds, which unfailingly blow hot and cold but always "blow," have it this way: Louis does not have a lock, stock and barrel headlock on the spot. Some moneybag named BROOKS has the main say, so those "in the know" blurt out. Some weeks back a Broadway columnist said that Louis would have "an air conditioned apartment in the spot plus a draw of $18,000 for use of his money-getting-name."

As for JOE LOUIS, he calls Joe Louis, Inc., 11 West 125th st. "MY NITESPOT." So-o-o-o take your choice and may no headwinds trouble you.

Gallant Gladiator

The Afro-American *Baltimore, Md.*

By J. FARLEY RAGLAND

Courageous Joe, who fears no foe,
Who dares the canvas-dust;
When he bestows decisive blows
'Tis quite a thrill to us.
We all amaze, and proffer praise *Sat. 6-29-46*
To this fond fistic knight,
Contenders all who dare to call,
He bravely stands to fight.
This lad of stone stands quite alone,
There is no peer in sight!
May he remain in fistic reign,
A mystic man of might.
Another knight may help us fight,
May to the summits go,
Another champ may scale the ramp-
But not a champ like JOE!

"Mr. America"

Sirs: *Time New York N.Y.*

Say, after taking one look at the specimen called "Mr. America" [TIME, June 17], I wonder why they can't find something like this as a challenger for Joe Louis. If the muscle and brawn is as good as it looks and this is not just a puffball exposure, after the poor fight Conn put up . . . this man looks as if he could revive the old glamor of boxing interest in a very short time. . . .

7-15-46 F. M. FLETCHER

New York City

¶ Weight-lifting is more fun than fighting Joe Louis.—ED.

"Who's Who" Explains

The Nation *New York, N.Y.* *Sat. 11-23-46*

Dear Sirs: My attention has been brought to the statement in the column entitled In the Wind, in the October 19 issue of *The Nation,* that Joe Louis Barrow is not included in "Who's Who," but that James Joseph Tunney has been listed since 1938.

Just to keep the record straight, I should like to point out, first, that the policy of "Who's Who" has always been not to include those whose prominence is due solely to their physical prowess That is why Joe Louis Barrow has never appeared in "Who's Who." You will note that Jack Dempsey was never sketched, nor was Babe Ruth. . . .

As for Mr. Tunney, he appeared in 1938 only when he had become chairman of the board of a large corporation of national reference interest. Incidentally, I understand that Mr. Barrow is scheduled for a current issue of "The Monthly Supplement to Who's Who."

WHEELER SAMMONS, JR.
Assistant Publisher, "Who's Who"

Chicago, October 30

BETWEEN THE LINES

Black Dispatch *Oklahoma City, Okla.*

By Dean Gordon Hancock

Joe Louis, Idol of the Nation

Upon his throne of pugilistic supremacy, Joe Louis sits exalted and serene! Never a man boxed like this man. He boxed his way from the cotton fields of Alabama into a fame that has spread around the earth. *Sat. 7-6-46*

Even more powerful than his devastating fists, is his gentlemanly example mirroring the fine influence of his Christian mother. When Joe's mother taught him comely behavior coupled with a more or less silent tongue, she was starting him on the road that has led to fame and fortune. American mothers, take note. Joe's talklessness has been one of his strong points and here is hoping that his present handlers do not attempt to make an orator out of him.

Little by little he is beginning to "talk" thus departing from his world-famed common-sense classics "I glad I win" and "another lucky night."

The closer Joe sticks to these little classics the safer his popularity. His fights are not as nerve-racking to me as his speeches. I can trust him as a boxer but I cannot trust him as a speaker—always afraid he is going to say

try. He is worshipped alike by something to the hearts and minds
whites and Negroes. Theoretical of men everywhere.
something wrong. This country is our idol and we do not want to interracialism can never compare
waiting most impatiently for him see him broken even by a little with practical interracialism such
to make his first major mistake speech the sportsmen try to ex- as Joe Louis has brought to the
and I do not want it to be a mis-tract from him, hoping the while scene. When the nation and world
take in words. When Joe departs that they cannot. If silence made draws the radio to hear from the
from his two little classics he him famous why grow eloquent? ring-side, its attention is centered
needs a "manuscript" that is edit- Joe Louis today is the supreme on Joe Louis, Negro gentleman
ed and doubled checked. Joe is interracial influence in this coun- and boxer extraordinary. It does

Sat 7-6-46

Sister's Graduation Greatest Thrill, Joe Tells Writer

The Afro-American *Baltimore, Md.* *Sat. 8-10-46*

NEW YORK, N.Y.—"The biggest thrill I ever had was that day in Washington when my sister graduated from Howard University," Joe Louis told a sports writer in answer to the query of what was the greatest thrill he ever had.

"You might think that my biggest moment came the night when I won the title, or when I knocked out Schmeling, but it wasn't. I never was happier in my life than when my sister got her diploma. Nothing will ever compare with that.

"I put her through school, otherwise she couldn't have gone. She worked hard for what she got—and she was graduated cum laude."

JOE LOUIS BOXES ONLY FOUR ROUNDS

The Times New York, N.Y.

Champion Also Takes Six-Mile Walk Instead of Hard Run as He Is Down to 208

Wed. 8-28-46

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Aug. 27 (AP) — Taking it comparatively easy, Joe Louis boxed four slow rounds today and his morning roadwork consisted of merely a six-mile walk instead of the usual hard run.

The reason, the heavyweight champion explained, is that he now weights only 208 pounds, just a pound more than he expects to scale for his meeting with Tami Mauriello on Sept. 18.

After the workout Joe explained he wants "to avoid losing too much weight and going stale." "I would like to hold my present weight for the Mauriello scrap," he added.

Louis boxed one round each with Perk Daniels, George Fitch, Teddy Randolph and Eldridge Eatman. Daniels hit Louis a couple of straight right hands, while Randolph hooked effectively with his left to the head and body. Against Randolph, Joe connected with short left hooks to the body.

SUMMIT, N. J., Aug. 27 (AP)—Marty Servo, welterweight champion, today reached the peak of some two months of training for the defense of his title against Ray Robinson at Yankee Stadium, Sept. 6, and at the same time Promoter Mike Jacobs' publicity department broke down and publicly admitted the bout would take place as scheduled.

Servo has been working out at Ehsan's training camp here since last June, but little has been heard about it except for occasional arguments between Jacobs and Marty's manager, Al Weill, as to whether the bout should be held at the Stadium or indoors in Madison Square Garden.

The champion, who was knocked out by Rocky Graziano in his last official fight last March, showed the results of the rigorous grind as he boxed six strenuous rounds before a group of boxing writers escorted here by Jacobs' staff. He was strong and full of confidence after taking on Walter Stevens of Newark, Bobby Lakin of New York and Lew Hanbury of Washington, D. C., in two-round sessions that looked like real fights. He insisted he felt better after such workout than he did before.

LOUIS TO DROP SPARRING

The Times New York, N.Y.

Managers Feel Champion Trained Too Fine for Title Bout

Mon. 9-2-46

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Sept. 1 (AP)—After boxing four rounds with four spar mates, Champion Joe Louis, down to 207 pounds almost three weeks before his heavyweight title scrap with Tami Mauriello, today decided to discontinue boxing for a few days.

The champion will continue road work and calisthenics, according to Manager Marshall Miles and Trainer Mannie Seamon, who considered Louis was training down too fine for such an early date.

Louis gave his sparring partners a rough time after George Fitch of New Haven, Conn., had bruised him under the left eye with a right-hand punch. He boxed one round each with Perk Daniels of Chicago, Teddy Randolph of New York, Eldridge Eatman of Norwalk, Conn., and Fitch.

63c 1946 Joe Louis (Mauriello)

Louis Hopes to Chill Mauriello In Time to Greet Theater Mob

The Courier Journal Louisville, Ky.

9-18-42

Pompton Lakes, N. J., Sept. 17 (UP)—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis expects to be in his Harlem restaurant tomorrow night in time to greet the after-theater crowd.

Considering that the Brown Bomber is defending his title for the 2d time when he goes against Tami Mauriello at 10 p.m.—as the theatergoers are seeing the last act—Joe doesn't believe the Bronx fat man will be perpendicular very long.

"I expect to win and I think it will be a short fight," the perfectly-conditioned champion said tonight after a final light workout. "I'll be in my restaurant after the fight."

Joltin' Joe is taking this one in stride.

UNCONCERNED

Absolutely unconcerned and as dead-panned as ever, he even disclosed plans to play golf Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Branch Brook Park Course in Belleville, N. J. For a man ordinarily adverse to showing his battle scars in public, you could see as he played pool and shuffleboard that Joe doesn't expect to have any.

"When two punchers go at it, a fight must be over soon," Louis drawled in his even tones after

Facts

Title at Stake—World heavyweight championship.

Principals—Champion Joe Louis of Detroit, age 32, weight 208, vs. challenger Tami Mauriello, age 23, weight 196, of the Bronx.

Site—Yankee Stadium.

Length of Bout—Fifteen rounds to a decision.

Betting Price—Louis favored to win at 1 to 12.

Expected Crowd—30,000.

Expected Gate—$300,000.

Time of Main Event—About 10 p.m. (E.D.T.), 8 p.m. Louisville time.

Broadcast—American Broadcasting Company.

Television—National Broadcasting Company.

taking a six-mile walk to loosen up his legs.

"And I have trained faithfully for this scrap and am in excellent condition."

LIKE TIGER

The champ looked it, too, as he shadow boxed effortlessly for five minutes. He then took five minutes of calisthenics and polished off his last drill by skipping ropes for five minutes.

At the end of more than three weeks of training, Joe moved like a tiger but had not lost as much weight as he expected. Stepping on the scales he moved the bar at 211 pounds and Manny Seamon, his trainer, predicted that the champ would weigh in at about 209 pounds after drying out.

Louis and his entourage will leave this camp in the New Jersey Hills tomorrow morning and motor to Madison Square Garden for the 12:30 p.m. weigh-in. He then will go to an apartment over his restaurant until time to head for Yankee Stadium.

Less Money Afloat, Harlem Gives Louis a Cool Reception

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 9-28-46

By RALPH MATTHEWS

NEW YORK (AFRO National Bureau)—Whatever else the Joe Louis-Mauriello fight proved, one thing is certain—the war is definitely over.

Never in the history of championship fights has Harlem been so undemonstrative both before and after the battle.

The almost empty night clubs, the complete lack of the holiday spirit so prevalent just three months ago when Joe battled Billy Conn, all testified to the fact that if the post-war depression has not arrived, it is just around the corner, and Harlem is the first to feel its hot breath on its neck.

Either Holding On or Broke

People have either started to tighten their financial belts or else they have already cut into their war-time saving.

Not even Joe's own swanky new bar on 125th St. attracted much attention Tuesday night prior to the fight.

Although it is able to accommodate at least 500 or more, not more than 100 could be found at different periods between dusk and dawn, as I made the rounds checking on out-of-town fight fans.

The lobby of the Hotel Theresa, They offered a great contrast to the carefree, fun-loving good fellows who literally turned the place into a bedlam during the Louis-Conn fight.

Nation-Wide Union

At the latter contest there were sportsmen and big spenders from all over the country, as far West as California and Seattle, and as far South as Texas.

Afro American

There was a party raging in nearly every room for two days prior to the fight and for as many days after, with groups drifting from room to room and liquor flowing like Niagara Falls.

So carefree was the setup that it was not necessary to know the host of the moment, but just be in company with someone who did.

Spirits and good fellowship were so fluid that some of those holding $100 seats were so inundated by fight time that they could not navigate to the Stadium, but this fight was different.

Dearth of Celebrities

The celebrities were scarce as hen teeth and there were no blanket invitations to hilarity.

Smalls Paradise, jammed to the rafters three months ago, had nothing more than the usual hangers-on. The same went for Franks, the smart restaurant where visitors gather, and the Palm Tavern.

Baltimore, Md.

The night of the fight was equally dismal. None of the high jinks of previous fight was evidenced.

Fear of Rioting Blamed

Part of this was due to an extra precaution taken by the police to prevent racial flareups. Not one automobile was permitted to pass down Harlem's Seventh, Lenox or St. Nicholas Aves.

Sat. 9-28-46

All Cars Rerouted

All cars were routed from the this within their price range.

However, the biggest crowds went for the nominal three-buck ducats.

Not Worth Train Fare

One observer summed up the whole affair which must have been the thinking of a lot of out-of-towners who stayed home.

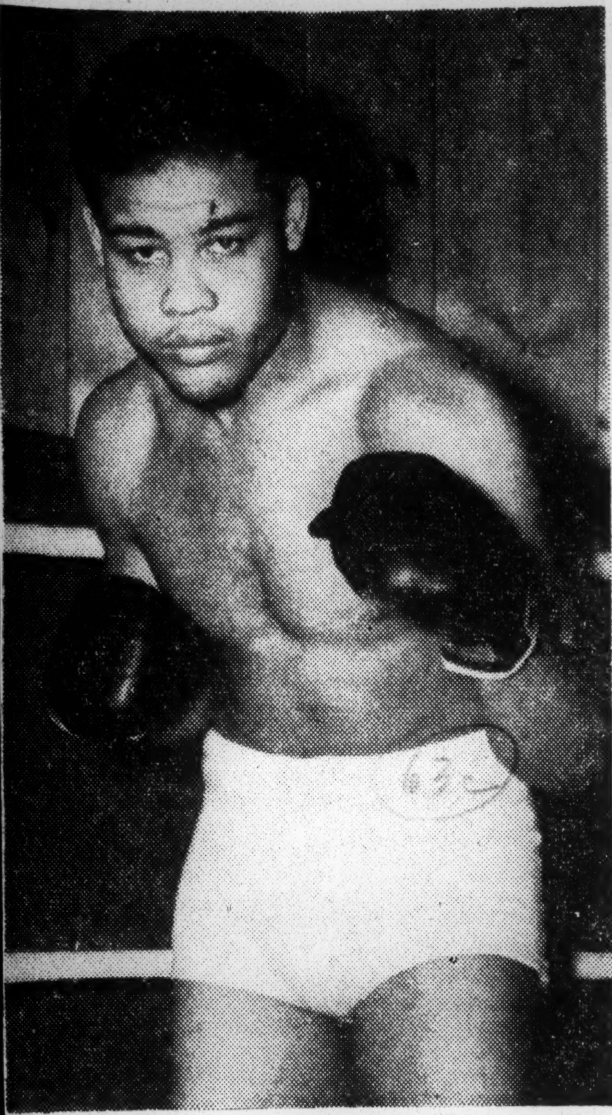
He said that a friend of his from Detroit had presented him with a hundred-dollar seat for the last fight and to repay the favor he had bought tickets for the Mauriello fight and sent them to his friend and his wife.

The friend send the tickets back with thanks, explaining that the Conn fight was so rotten that he did not feel like spending the carfare to come.

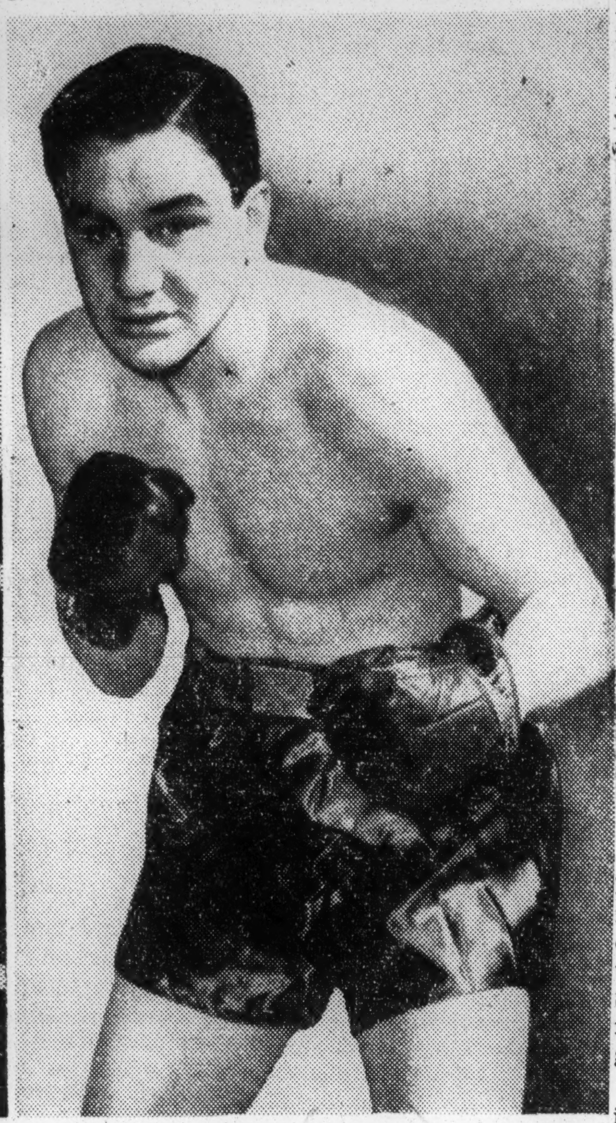
That probably accounts for the lack of enthusiasm.

63c 1946 Joe Louis (Mauriello)

PRINCIPALS IN HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE BOUT TONIGHT



Joe Louis



Tami Mauriello

Sports of the Times

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

By ARTHUR DALEY

The Times New York, N.Y.

For the Championship of the World

THE men who drive trucks never have been considered pacifists nor fellows who ever avoided a fight. But their strike and the resultant shortage of newsprint certainly have made tonight's Louis-Mauriello battle the least publicized fight in recent history. It won't be staged in absolute privacy, of course, but the ballyhoo machine has been so inordinately quiet of recent weeks that the customers, some still bearing scars from the no-hitter tossed by Billy Conn, have not been stirred from their apathy.

Perhaps it's just as well. When this match was first arranged by that eminent altruist, Michael Strauss Jacobs, it sounded horribly reminiscent of the old-time "Bum of the Month" series that the Dark Destroyer whirled through in pre-war days. Tami's record certainly has not been awesome even though the statistics can be juggled deftly enough to present the fact that the overstuffed Bronx tavern owner has won his last eleven fights by knockouts. He also has been cuffed around by some operatives who bear a suspicious resemblance to stumblebums.

Yet there is one ancient ring axiom which cannot be overlooked: Anything can happen in a heavyweight fight. Tami is big enough and hits hard enough. He has all the courage he'll ever need. And for this bout, at least, he's adhered faithfully to training rules. In fact his most persistent exercise has been to push himself firmly away from the table when a heaping plate of spaghetti has been placed before him.

The betting odds, however, would indicate that this reformed superdreadnought (now in the vicinity of a svelte 195 pounds) hasn't a ghost of a chance with the explosive Brown Bomber. That undoubtedly is true. But many a lucky punch has won many a lop-sided bout in the past and most of the dyed-in-the-wool clients would rather be found dead than miss seeing a possible upset. So they'll be there. Wed. 9-18-46

Four Did It

After all, Louis can be tagged. Max Schmeling knocked him out and he was dumped unceremoniously on the seat of his pants by Messrs. Jim Braddock, Tony Galento and Buddy Baer, neither of the last two being precisely considered as a ring-tailed wow. In fact, when Buddy had the effrontery to deposit the Dark Destroyer on the apron outside the ropes, only one idea flashed through the mind of the startled Louis. He thought, "If he's in there, what am ah doin' out here?" So he returned and knocked out his foe in the seventh.

When one stops to analyze Mauriello, it's inevitable that he be compared to Achilles. It will be remembered, naturally, that Achilles was vulnerable only in his heel. Tami has many more vulnerable spots than that but it's his heel which has dictated his style of fighting. As a boy he was the victim of an accident which left him with a deformed heel. He finds it impossible to retreat and always has to bore in, an attribute which made him a crowd pleaser. And he also bowls over easier than most, just in case you're interested, even though he never has been knocked out.

A week or so ago the Brown Bomber asked this reporter (of all people) what he though of his chances. Maybe Joe was just trying to be polite. So he was asked in turn if he had seen Bruce Woodcock, the picture-book fighter from Britain, smack Mauriello a jolly good thump on the whiskers and then step back to admire his work. Joe grinned. "Sho' did," he drawled. "Would you do that or would you rush right in and tear his head off?" was the next persistent query. "'Spects ah mighta hit him again at that," he said with a chuckle. Then he laughed uproariously. It wasn't that funny. But he got the idea.

Helpful Reprieve

A Louis would have finished off the rubber-kneed Mauriello on that occasion because Tami needed only one more punch to go wandering down Queer Street. But Woodcock was much too inexperienced to send him on his journey. So the spaghetti-bender from the Bronx made full use of his reprieve and polished off the too gentlemanly and too decorous visitor in the fifth.

They say of Mauriello that he never has been in a dull fight. That's why he has been such a sure-fire attraction as a Madison Square Garden headliner, getting more main event assignments than any other heavyweight ever has had. Of course, he also had the great wartime advantage of availability since his deformed heel kept him out of service. But he's been an aggressive hustler every minute.

That can be his salvation—and perhaps his doom—against Louis. Tami can't win on points, only by a knockout. There isn't a heavyweight in the world who can outbox Louis, a talent of his that is much too frequently overlooked. He has a jab like the forceful kick of a mule, throwing his rival off balance and setting him up for the kill. 9-18-46

This one even can be a very exciting bout as long as it lasts. But those things never can be guaranteed and the old Roman principle still holds true after thousands of years, "Caveat Emptor" or "Let the buyer beware."

Its main recommendation is that it will be an opportunity to see in action Joe Louis, possibly the greatest champion of them all. That alone is worth telling your grandchildren about.

BOTH FIGHTERS FIT FOR STADIUM BOUT

The Times New York, N.Y.

Louis Will Oppose Mauriello in

23d Defense of Crown Won 9 Years Ago

QUICK KNOCKOUT IS SEEN

Wed. 9-18-46

Champion Picked in 3 Rounds Despite Confident Air and Fine Record of Rival

HOW RIVALS COMPARE

LOUIS		MAURIELL
32	age	23
207 lbs.	weight	195 lb
6 ft. 2 in.	height	5 ft. 11½
76 in.	reach	73½ in
42 in.	chest (normal)	43 in
45 in.	chest (expanded)	45½ in
17 in.	neck	17 in
15 in.	biceps	15 in
12 in.	forearm	13 in
8 in.	wrist	8
11¾ in.	fist	12 in
36 in.	waist	34½ in
22 in.	thigh	23 in
14 in.	calf	14½ in
10 in.	ankle	9½ in

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Trained to the minute and ready for battle, Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion, and Tami Mauriello, burly Bronx challenger, were in secusion last night on the eve of their battle for the ring's richest prize.

They are scheduled to collide tonight at the Yankee Stadium, where Louis will make his twenty-third defense of the crown he lifted back in 1937 from James J. Braddock. At 10 o'clock, or as quickly thereafter as possible, depending upon the progress of the preliminary bouts, the scheduled fifteen-round battle will start.

It may be over in a couple of minutes or it may require forty-five minutes of actual combat. Majority opinion holds it will be a short battle.

Expert belief holds, also, that it will be an exciting battle, with a spectacular finish, regardless of the victor. As a consequence, more than 30,000 boxing followers are expected to flock to the Stadium tonight. Promoter Mike Jacobs of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club forecast gate receipts in excess of $300,000 following heavy advance ticket sales over the week-end.

Top Price at Ringside $30

Because of the disappointment in the wake of Louis' fight against Billy Conn last June with a $100 top, Jacobs adopted a $30 ringside maximum for the impending struggle. Prices for other reserved seats are $20, $10 and $5. There will be 14,000 upper stand seats at $3 each placed on sale at the Stadium at 5 P. M. today.

Despite the brisk demand for ringside seats, sixteen or eighteen rows of these pasteboards remained available. These seats will be on the flat, because the trucking strike prevented transporting from their storage place the aluminum foundations for the raised ringside arrangement introduced at the Louis-Conn bout.

The American Broadcasting Company (WJZ) will carry a nation-wide broadcast of the battle, which will be televised by the National Broadcasting Company. Television of the preliminaries also is scheduled. These will start at 8:20 P. M. Gates to the arena will open at 6 P. M. In the event of postponement the bout will be rescheduled tomorrow night.

Betting is light, with few conceding more than an outside chance t Mauriello. Although at 23 he is nine years younger than Louis, Tami has had more fights and even boasts a greater number of knockouts. Nevertheless, opinion is general that only stark carelessness on Joe's part will jeopardize his title, and it is not in the Louis routine to be careless.

Only Loss to Schmeling

The only exception on record occurred the night he forgot to pull his chin away from Max Schmeling's short, powerful right-hand punch. Louis suffered his only knockout, his only defeat, on that occasion ten years ago.

So it is that those who wager on boxing favor Louis at 1 to 8. Some books even quoted 1 to 10. The champion was held at 1 to 5 to win by a knockout. Even money

LOUIS IN CONDITION FOR TITLE CONTEST

The Times New York, N.Y.

Joe Floors Sparring Partner at Lake Camp—Mauriello Confident of Victory

Mon. 9-16-46

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Sept. 15 (AP)—Joe Louis served notice today that he is ready to carry out his promise of polishing off Tami Mauriello just as soon as he can after the opening bell of their fight Wednesday night at the Yankee Stadium.

He had just finished two somewhat peaceful rounds of sparring with Perk Daniel, the long-armed Chicagoan, and George Fitch, the experienced New Haven ringman, and was letting Teddy Randolph, a New York youngster with a canny boxing style, serve them up freely to the Louis chin and head.

Joe actually stuck his chin out, inviting Teddy to turn loose his high hard one. Teddy did—and he never knew what hit him. As he moved in the Bomber let go a right that buckled Randolph's knees. Then there was a left and another right loaded with all the old Louis precision and dynamite and Randolph went down. He recovered enough to finish out the round, but the evidence was in—Joe is all ready.

Tami Mauriello went through his last two rounds of boxing yesterday in preparation for the bout.

After belting Tommy Altieri of Meriden, Conn., for two rounds and loosening up with two more rounds of calisthenics he said:

"I'm in good shape to go fifteen rounds if necessary, but I'm confident that I will knock out Louis."

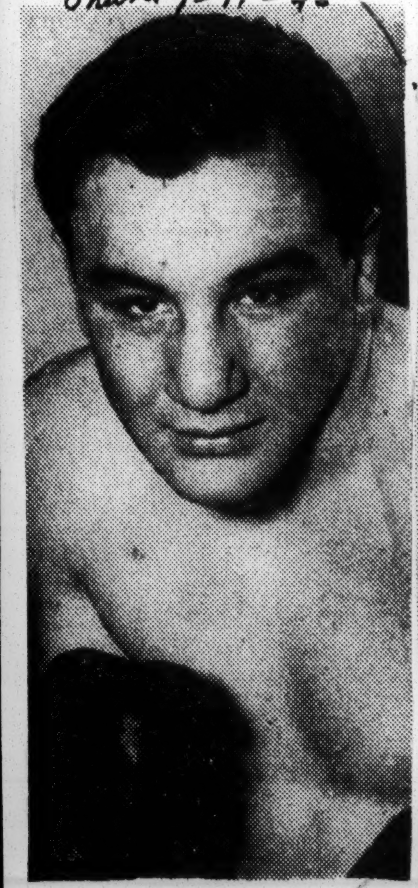
Tami weighed 198 pounds at the end of the session at the Bronx Park arena and expects to tip the scales at 196 for the fight.

was quoted Mauriello would not answer the bell for the fifth round. Anybody who liked Mauriello to knock out Louis virtually could write his own ticket.

Nevertheless it is the slim possibility of a change in title ownership which accounts for the optimistic crowd and receipts forecasts. Always present is the chance of one punch lifting the challenger to the exalted estate of champion, and the Bronx heavyweight is a capable puncher with both left and right. Moreover, Louis can be hit with a right. Mauriello never has been knocked out and he is strong, fearless and amazingly confident after eleven straight knockout victories.

Louis, the most active heavyweight champion in history, is one of the greatest counter-punchers the ring has known. He is in great shape. So is Mauriello, a fact which is expected to be certified at noon today when champion and challenger meet in Madison Square Garden to weigh under the supervision of Chairman Eddie Eagan of the State Athletic Commission.

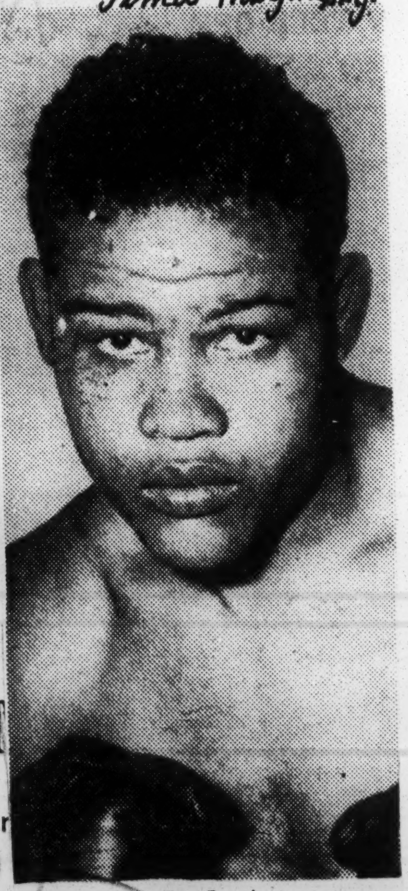
Louis is expecting a quick victory. He should achieve this goal within three rounds.



Tami Mauriello

TO MEET IN HEAVY WEIGHT TITLE BOUT

Times New York, N.Y.



Joe Louis

Mauriello Says He Has No Fear of Louis, Joe Works Sharply as Both Open Camps

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-24-46

NEPTUNE, N.J.—In two respects Tami Mauriello, who meets Joe Louis for the world heavyweight championship on Sept. 18, is different from any of the Brown Bomber's 22 other title bout opponents.

One of these differences is vocal, the other is physical.

Tami believes, and says, that he has absolutely nothing to be afraid of when he climbs through the Yankee Stadium ropes to meet the greatest heavyweight champion in the history of the ring. This difference from the others, of course, is merely professed and may fizzle out completely when time arrives for the execution.

But the other difference is real. Tami is certain to carry the fight to Louis. He can't do otherwise. A childhood injury to one heel keeps him from backing up. When he walks or moves it must always be forward or else he will lose his balance and fall.

Hence, it is easy to see that Mauriello will be distinguishable from the long line of other Louis foes. He won't be boxing from a crawl and he won't be running from ring-post to ring-post.

It may work out that he'll be sorry, but Tami doesn't think so.

"I don't have any fear of Joe," Mauriello declared here Saturday. And in answer to my suggestion that a lot of others told me the same thing through the years, he said:

"Be that as it may, I can't comment on the other fellows' intentions, but you can be sure I've got a whole lot of inspiration, what with a wife and kid and another one on the way.

"I thought Conn had a good purpose in fighting Joe, other than the money that was involved. Because I thought he really did cherish the championship like he said.

But Conn didn't have sufficient incentive apparently, or he didn't have the courage to match it. I think I've got both.

"You see, up in our block were guys like Jake LaMotta and Phil Terranova, and we did a lot of fighting when we were kids. We had to, in order to survive. Phil was always on the small side but he learned like the rest of us how to take care of himself."

I had heard a lot about the fighters who come up in the rough-and-tough environment of street-corner brawls and neighborhood rowdyism and I told him as much.

"I guess you've got something there," agreed Tami, "but the only thing to do is wait and see. Just don't prejudge me, that's all and tell Joe he hadn't better sell me short."

According to Lefty Remini, white, Mauriello's manager, the challenger lost a part of his heel when it was crushed under a wagon wheel in a Bronx street at the age of nine. The ankle bone was shattered at the same time and, for a period, doctors thought he might be unable to use it at all.

Throughout his boxing career he has found that so long as he can remain on the offensive, he stands an even chance of making a fight of it with any of his foes.

Tami is being trained by Al Silvania, another boyhood chum and an acknowledged craftsman. Silvani told the AFRO Friday that Mauriello "will be in the best condition of his life" when he tangles with the champion.

He said that when the started training here at the Jumping Brook Golf and Country Club Mauriello was weighing 209 pounds. Tami was down to 206 after three days and they decided to dispense with boxing on Friday because he wanted to "space things out so that he won't shed so fast."

With the fight one month away, Silvani pointe dout, "we have a lot of time to get down to the 195 pounds we plan to be for Louis."

The challenger boasts a good left hook, with which he scored most of the nine knockouts he has chalked up in his last 10 scraps.

Mauriello has been given two fair-to-middling boxers as sparring mates. In Cleo Everett, he has a shifty stepper and a good puncher, and in Johnny DeMaio, white, Tami expects to find a good workman for sharpening him for infighting.

Everett, according to Remini, is the nearest thing the Mauriello camp could get to the Bomber himself. While no one risks the opinion that the New York light-heavyweight is another Joe, it is believed his willingness to fight should prove advantageous since Louis is a known mixer.

"What we want," said Remini, "is rugged mates because with both Tami and Joe coming in, somebody has got to go, even if it is us."

Mauriello engaged in light calisthenics on Friday, then went to New York to watch the Jersey Joe Walcott-Tommy Gomez fight at the Garden. He boxed four rounds on Saturday, taking things rather easily. Two were with each mate.

POMPTON LAKES, N.J. — Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis returned to his training camp here Saturday evening, following two off days from his conditioning work for the Tami Mauriello bout at Yankee Stadium, Sept. 18.

The Brown Bomber appeared at a benefit boxing show in Washington, D.C., Friday night and returned to New York Saturday afternoon by plane.

Two of the four mates he used in preparing for the Billy Conn fight were back in camp. They are George Fitch and Perk Daniels.

Jimmy Bell and Al Hoosman, the light, fast partners of the pre-Conn battle did not return, obviously because the Louis handlers do not regard Mauriello as a "runner" of the Pittsburgher's type.

Teddy Randolph, a bruising heavyweight from Philadelphia replaced Bell and Elridge Eatman is taking up the job left by Hoosman. Eatman is perhaps the shiftiest of the quartet.

Joe boxed four rounds on Sunday, one with each man. He impressed onlookers with his sharpness, pummeling Daniels and Fitch in particular and bumping Randolph repeatedly with hard left and right counters.

In his opening session, Louis's plan of battle seemed to be to let his mates take the initiative.

63c 1946

In this corner

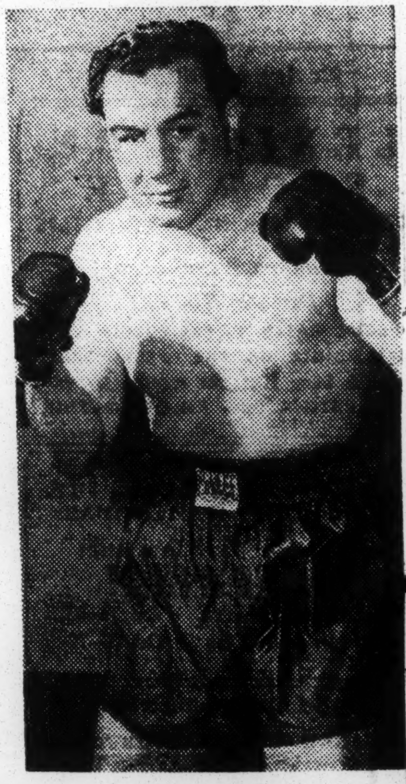
Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Some Comment About the Louis-Tami Fite

Fri. 7-12-46

By Bill Mardo

There's more mis-emphasis being placed on the forthcoming Joe Louis-Tami Mauriello mixup than one has heard in all the time that King Joe has ruled the roost. Some scribes are screaming strange epithets about Tami being sent to his "murder." Others cynically predict that boxing will be set back a thousand years because of this one! Baloney. Why have those great authorities of the game conviently forgotten there has never been, aside from the Billy Conn of 1941, any scrapper truly capable of extending the great heavyweight champion? Is Tami Mauriello any less a contender than were Johnny Paychek, Tony Musto or Jack Roper? Actually, the Bronx barkeep is just another fighter (and a whole lot more capable than some of the others) who will go down before the flying fists of Joseph Louis Barrow.



TAMI MAURIELLO

He's a big, rugged and hard-hitting customer, is Mister Mauriello, and game as they come. He'll floor any man he hits solidly—and need we add, it's always been more interesting to watch Louis in there against a dangerous clouter than it is when he's meeting a boxer of the Conn and Pastor type, or a clumsy croucher of the Godoy school, or a chopping block of the Farr variety. Louis' most thrilling bouts have been with the sluggers —big Buddy Baer, who knocked him through the ropes . . . and fat Tony Galento, whose murderous left hook floored Louis in the third round of that colorful brawl. Tami Mauriello falls into such a category. He hits clubbingly hard and owns more natural equipment than Galento or Buddy Baer ever possessed. He's younger and faster than either of those two gents who put up such interesting showings against the champ—and so long as Mauriello remains erect the fight will be a good one to watch. It always is when two punchers meet.

So it seems to me that this belittling of Tami's chances is a rather stupid basis on which to attack the September 18 title tilt at Yankee Stadium. Of course Mauriello won't win. Of course the probability is that Louis will demolish him within four rounds. But who has ever boasted a fair chance of beating Louis in all the years he's been on top? Who is there whom one can honestly point to today and say, "That guy might lick Joe?"

Those writers who are banging out angry words over this scheduled setto must place themselves in the rather ludicrous position of calling this one a mis-match, without taking time out to remember that all of Louis' title defenses were, by dint of the champion's overpowering superiority, mis-matches in the figurative sense of the word.

Some writers, like the well-intentioned Jimmy Cannon, are bolstering their far-fetched argument with a new angle. namely. that Mauriello is unfairly handicapped by a lame leg. Cannon makes Tami out to be almost a hospital case. Tell that to British champ Bruce Woodcock, who was knocked senseless with one punch by the "invalid" from the Bronx. Tell that to the many other men whom Mauriello has either flattened or outpointed. The truth is that Tami, from a childhood accident, has an injured instep in his right leg, and this slight deformity causes him to be slightly off-balance whenever he retreats. But Mauriello doesn't fight a retreating kind of battle. He's constantly moving in and punching. All his ring success has stemmed from this aggressive style, backed up with his powerful left hook and crushing right chop.

Joe Louis (Mauriello)

Just from the sake of factual reporting, it's annoying to see some writers suddenly picturing Mauriello as a defenseless boxer who pathetically hobbles around the ring. As a matter of fact, Tami's defect is quite invisible to the naked eye and, as noted above, doesn't affect his particular ring style at all. Fri. 7-12-46

All of the aforementioned, then, is why we said at the outset there was a lot of misplaced criticism about the Autumn title tilt. The press should criticize this scrap on far sounder ground. And there is plenty for which the bout must be blasted. For one thing, Jersey Joe Wolcott and Jimmy Bivins deserve a crack at the title much sooner than does Tami Mauriello. Bivins has licked Tami twice with ease. Walcott has floored and outpointed Bivins. Doesn't it seem fair that Mike Jacobs give those two heavyweights first consideration? Or doesn't it seem logical that Jacobs should have at least staged a three-man elimination tourney this Summer, with the top guy getting the contender's crack?

But no—Jacobs, as usual, is doing things his way.

Another negative aspect of the September setto is the price scale. The man they ironically enough call "Uncle" Mike is charging a $30 top for ringside, with the other seats scaling down from $20 to $10, to five dollars—with a $3 general admission sale the night of the bout. The average fight fan might be willing to spend five dollars for a good seat at a Louis match—but you know by now where that five-spot lands him at the tremendous ballpark. Somewhere in Westchester County. That $3 general admission for an unreserved seat is two dollars too much. One buck is all those bleacher pews are worth . . . considering the dough it costs to rent a pair of binoculars.

—On this note, now, leave us call it a day.

Mauriello Faces Louis for Title

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Wed. 9-18-46

By SID FEDER

NEW YORK, Sept. 17—(AP)—Joe Louis puts his world heavyweig championship on the line for the 23d time tomorrow night in Yanke Stadium against the challenge of tough Tami Mauriello, a somewha round saloon-keeper from the Bronx, and even Joe, himself, figure this will be a short night's work.

This corner tabs Joe to turn the lights out for Tami inside of three rounds. The local betting boys are quoting even money it will be all over in the first five heats after the Bomber and the Barkeep come out of the starting gate at 10 p. m. (EDT). The better Forty-ninth Street betting shoppes are laying you 8 to 1 if you like Mauriello and asking you to invest 10 to 1 if you want to send it in on Louis. If you think Mauriello can make the birdies sing for the champ, you can get 15 to 1. If you like Louis to wind it up somewhere along the way, you have to put up 17 to win 1. That's how sure the gambling gentlemen are that school will be out long before the 15-round Derby route is run.

Getting ready for his 23d defense of the gaudiest bauble on busted-nose highway in the fight game's record heavyweight title run, Joe has looked considerably more like the old Brown Bomber this time than he did training for Conn in June. The drilling for Billy and the weeks of 36-hole-a-day golf he plodded through since his waltz with Conn have sliced off the flabbiness with which he was padded through four years in the Army and have trimmed his legs down to fighter's size again. His sparmates are even happier than he is that the training grind is over, because he was doing them no good whatsoever. He'll scale about 208 pounds to Mauriello's 196 at the weigh-in at 12:30 p. m. Wednesday.

Tami is a tough 23-year-old thumper—nine years younger than Joe—who has been bouncing up and down Bash Boulevard since 1939. He's had 77 starts, losing only seven.

In his latest go-round, he belted British Champ Bruce Woodcock out in five rounds last May to run his winning string up to 12 straight since 1944.

Louis To Fight Mauriello On Sept. 18

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Thurs. 7-11-46

NEW YORK, July 10—(AP)—The next victim to be led into the pit against Bomber Joe Louis will be Tami Mauriello, a pudgy barkeeper out of the Bronx who is a perfectly rational young man except that he wants to get into a fight with the heavyweight champion.

After telling practically everyone that the Billy Conn clambake of a couple of weeks back would be his only ring appearance, this year, Bomber Joe listened to the soothing persuasions of Promoter Mike Jacobs and agreed Wednesday to put his title on the line for the twenty-third time against thumping Tami on Sept. 18 in Yankee Stadium. Thurs. 7-11-46

But the peacefulness of the Conn affair at $100 per seat taught Mike one thing—that you can lead Gus Fan and the Missus to a box office, but you can't make them put up their cash. As a result, he's marking this one down to $30 tops—and $3 bottoms—and has scaled the big Bronx ballyard for a gate of something over a million dollars. He thinks the "take" will hit seven figures and that there will be more cash customers on hand than the 45,226 who saw the Louis-Conn thing, what with the entire Bronx figuring to turn out to see the local hero in there with the head man.

Tami, whose real name is Steve and who borrowed his older brother's tag because he was too young to get a beak-busting license of his own, signed for the fight on Monday, agreeing to take 15 percent as well as whatever bumps and bruises he may acquire in the course of the proceedings.

Joe Louis Launches Training for Fight

The Florida Times Union, Jacksonville, Fla.

NEW YORK, Aug. 9. (AP)—Weighing only three pounds more than the 207 he took into the ring against Billy Conn, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis came to town today from Detroit, dropped in for a chat with Promoter Mike Jacobs, then departed for Pompton Lakes, N. J., where he will start training for his Sept. 18 title defense against Tami Mauriello. Sat. 8-10-46

The Bomber said he will take it easy until Aug. 18, when he will start a series of 15 boxing sessions with George Fitch and Perk Daniels, his sparring partners for the Conn fight, and two or three other punching bags yet to be hired.

Although in excellent condition because of his golf activity in recent weeks, Joe plans a steady program of training which will keep him in camp almost continually. At present he plans only to leave for the opening of his Harlem restaurant Sept. 1, and for a trip to Washington Aug. 16 to be a guest at a police boys' club affair at Griffith Stadium.

Doctor Astonished At Louis' Condition

Pompton Lakes, N. J., Sept. 10 —(AP) — The same official medical man who viewed with alarm all over the place when he examined Joe Louis before his June fight with Billy Conn, looked the Brown Bomber over again today, and seemed to have a hard time believing it was the same man.

Dr. Vincent Nardiello, New York State Athletic commission physician gave Joe the usual pre-fight going over for his September 18 get-together with Tami Mauriello, and discovered (A) that the heavyweight champion is "in far better shape now" than he was for Conn and (B) that "it is remarkable how Louis' blood pressure went down during his sparring drill instead of up."

Mauriello, Louis Bout Will Stay In New York

Courier Journal Louisville, Ky.

New York, July 31 (AP)—The Heavyweight Championship fight between Joe Louis and Tami Mauriello, scheduled for Yankee Stadium September 18, will not be transferred to Detroit, Promoter Mike Jacobs said tonight.

Jacobs said earlier he was considering the possibility of taking the fight to the champion's home town after receiving a telephone call from Michigan Boxing Commissioner John Hettche, who suggested the switch. Thurs. 8-1-46

After thinking the matter over, the promoter said, he decided not to attempt to take the fight away from New York, a move which would have required a release from his contract with stadium officials.

In this corner

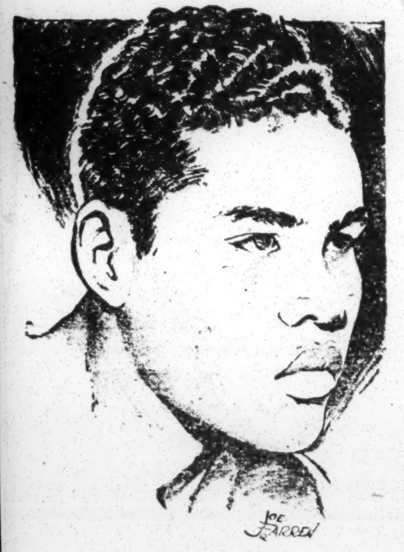
Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Joe to KO Slugger Tami in 3 or Less

Wed. 9-18-46

By Bill Mardo

Tami Mauriello might be flattened in the first round at Yankee Stadium tonight, and chances are that if he wages his customary aggressive battle, the lights will go out for him with stunning swiftness. And allowing for all sorts of improbable last-minute switches in his battle strategy, the slight possibility of even the bold and fearless Tami "freezing up" and becoming cautious, yes, even so, it's hard to foresee mister Mauriello lasting longer than three rounds at the very most in his crack at Joe Louis' title.



JOE LOUIS

All this notwithstanding, the fray figures to be a most exciting one while it lasts, and worthy of far more attention than most boxing observers have given it. For it's our opinion that Tami is probably the best foe faced by Louis since that first and memorable Conn clash in the summer of '41. You might feel that there's a contradiction here in our anticipating a quick and inevitable kayo over Mauriello, and then going on to remark that the Bronxite will be the stiffest test for Louis in five years. But our reasoning is quite simple, believe me. Joe Louis is so superior to the rest of the heavyweight pack that any fighter around today, regardless of his natural abilities, just doesn't rate much chance with the greatest heavyweight battler of all time. If the challenger is a superb boxer, a la Billy Conn, then Joe Louis will just outbox the guy, slow him down to a walk with those crunching left hooks of his, bring him into range of heavier artillery and bang! If, on the other hand, the challenger is a slugger, as is mister Mauriello, the heavy champ is at his supreme best in the role of counter-puncher, the hardest, swiftest, most accurate counter-puncher ever.

Which is exactly the part Louis will play tonight before some 30,000 paying guests. For Tami Mauriello is a puncher—a dangerous puncher who can knock a man kicking with a single blow. The likable Bronx kid knows no other way to fight than to move in, paw away with a good journeyman left and then wham over his powerful roundhouse right. A perfect setup for King Joe, who loves nothing better than to have a man come in to him and fire punches. For it's common knowledge, as noted above, that the Louis arsenal is at its brilliant best when fired in retaliation, when fired with that unbelievably rapid pace wherein no man can accurately count the exact number of blows tossed, when the total visual experience is of having seen a blur of leather, almost like a flickering strip of motion picture film. And when the film slows down and the picture comes into clear focus again, you see one man crumble to the canvas and Louis, with a slight downward glance at his fallen foe, calmly walk to a neutral corner.

Yes, and that movie will be no different tonight. The only untoward incident that can possibly happen, and one that shouldn't occasion too much amazement, is the possibility of Mauriello flooring Louis just once before the champion puts him to sleep. Louis has been knocked down before, and sometimes by men who didn't pack as potent a single wallop as Mauriello. But the beauty of Louis' incredible talent is his ability to get off the floor and murder his opposition in double-quick time. That happened when the left-hooking Tony Galento dumped Joe for a short count, it happened when Buddy Baer banged Louis out of the ring, it even occurred that night nine years ago when Braddock briefly dropped Louis in the first stanza before the "Cinderella Man" was counted out a few rounds later and Louis' hand raised in victory. *Wed. 9-18-46*

So a big fellow as young and strong as Mauriello could conceivably floor Louis in the midst of a wild exchange. If he does, Tami will have gained more glory from tonight's fight than most cynical observers anticipate. But floor him or no, the cherubic-faced kid from the Bronx will go a sleepin' early, for the great Negro battler who defends his title for the 23rd time tonight, is, by his own admission, a better all around fighter today at 32 than he was in his youth.

Expect 40,000 to Watch Louis-Mauriello Battle

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 9-21-46

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

NEW YORK — Although Joe Louis figures to enter the Yankee Stadium ring here Wednesday night at prohibitive odds to defeat Tami Mauriello, Bronx Italian, and retain his world heavyweight championship, a brisk ticket sale over the past week end offered promise of a crowd of nearly 40,000.

The Bomber figures to climb through the ropes a 12-to-1 favorite to win, and as high as 4½-to-1 to score a knockout. Yet 20th Century Sporting Club officials are anticipating a gate in excess of $300,000.

Joe Has Appeal

This is solid testimony to the tremendous appeal which Louis has for the followers of sports. This match is widely recognized as a sort of "fill-in" for the nation's heavyweight fight picture, until such time as a logical contender for Joe can be uncovered.

Mauriello has been high-pressured into a challenger's spot, boasting little more than an ability to punch and a willingness to risk his neck in a human cement-mixer. He has reached the top by whipping the likes of Lee Oma, Lou Nova, Bruce Woodcock and Lee Savold, and losing to Jimmy Bivins twice and ducking Jersey Joe Walcott.

The fans are aware of this, but they are laying out their shackles—in amounts ranging from $5 to $30—simply because Louis is booked for another showing.

Ignore KO Chances

Conscious as they are of the peculiarities of sports in general, and of the fight game in particular, they are paying little attention to the fates which could place a Mauriello blow on the Bomber's chin and put him away for the count.

Both principals finished off their training chores on Monday.

Showing a sharp defense against four sparmates, who displayed various boxing styles, Joe went through a four-round workout Sunday. That, coming from the modest champion, doesn't make Tami's task any more appetizing.

Approximately 600 fans saw the champion go through an easy round against Perk Daniels of Chicago in long range boxing. He was tagged often by George Fitch of New Haven, the harder hitter of his sparring staff, and found a few openings to toss in his own punches. *Afro-American*

Floors Randolph

He laced Ted Randolph of New York, the swifter of his personnel, and floored Randolph with a right to the chin in a fast exchange of in-fighting. Least action of all was shown in his round with Elridge Eatman, although the champ apparently was never overrushed or in trouble. *Baltimore, Md.*

Louis spent most of the late morning and early afternoon receiving guests in his lodge.

After a workout with his sparmates a few medicine ball catches, calisthenics and shadow boxing, the champ showed little evidence of exhaustion. *Sat. 9-21-46*

Tami Boxes 2 Rounds

Mauriello concluded his training grind with a two-round stint against Tommy Antieri, white, heavyweight from Meriden, Conn.

The session was a colorless affair with Tami spending most of the time moving about and avoiding his mate's leads.

The challenger declared he was "in splendid shape and ready to lift the title."

LOUIS SIGNS TO MEET MAURIELLO SEPT. 18

The Times New York, N.Y.
Thurs 7-11-46

Heavyweight Title Bout Again Booked for Yankee Stadium, but Prices Are $3 to $30

TAMI HAS WON 12 IN ROW

Last 11 Rivals Knocked Out—

Promoter Jacobs Looks for Another $1,000,000 Gate

By WILLIAM J. BRIORDY

Joe Louis will make the twenty-third defense of his world heavyweight boxing championship at Yankee Stadium, Wednesday night, Sept. 18, when he takes on Tami Mauriello of the Bronx. Promoter Mike Jacobs of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club announced yesterday that both Louis and Mauriello had signed contracts.

It will mark the Brown Bomber's second title defense of the year. The champion knocked out Billy Conn at Yankee Stadium on June 19.

Ticket prices for the Louis-Mauriello fifteen-round bout range from $3 to $30, tax included. Terms of the contract were not divulged, but it is probable Mauriello will collect 15 per cent of the net, with the champion drawing his usual 40 per cent.

The report had been traveling about for more than a week that Louis and Mauriello would be matched. Louis, a heavy favorite when he put Conn down for the full count in 2:19 of the eighth round, is expected to be a strong choice to turn back Mauriello's bid.

Mauriello, who has a jolting left and a strong right, earned his shot at the title chiefly through his standout record over the past eighteen months. During that period the Bronx heavyweight won twelve straight engagements—the last eleven by knockouts. In his last start at Madison Square Garden on May 17, Mauriello knocked out Bruce Woodcock, British Empire heavyweight champion, in the fifth round.

Mauriello Has Fine Record

The Bronx fighter has an imposing record. He has registered fifty-one knockout victories in seventy-seven contests. At present, Mauriello tips the beam at about 198. He has never been knocked out. *7-11-46*

Mauriello has won sixty-nine of his seventy-seven bouts. He has dropped seven decisions and fought one draw. Mauriello, 23, has been boxing professionally since 1939. He failed in two attempts to take the light heavyweight crown from Gus Lesnevich five years ago.

Jacobs is of the opinion that the Louis-Mauriello clash will attract another million dollar gate. A crowd of 45,266 paid $1,925,564 to watch Louis stop Conn for the second time.

Top price for that clash was $100, but Jacobs looks for a larger attendance at the Louis-Mauriello meeting, not only because of the lower prices but also because a good portion of the Bronx may turn out to see its local idol attempt to take the heavyweight title.

Louis, by the way, had told reporters who interviewed him following his fight with Conn that he would not box again this year. Joe reportedly is getting in plenty of work with his golf clubs in Detroit.

The Borwn Bomber again is expected to set up his training camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J., probably on Aug. 1. Mauriello hasn't selected a site.

Louis Declines Prediction

Times New York, N.Y. 7-11-46

DETROIT, July 11 (U.P.)—Joe Louis, more concerned about his hook off the tee than his left hook in the ring, refused today to predict the outcome of his September fight with Tami Mauriello. He merely said: "I think I'll be able to take care of myself all right."

Louis, back in his hoem city for the first time since he defended his title against Billy Conn, took time off from a round of golf to verify the Mauriello bout. The champion will remain here until July 19 and will play in his Joe Louis golf tournament at Rackham July 15-18. Then he will go to Chicago to participate in the All-American open at Tam o'Shanter, July 25-28.

Joe Louis Sharpens Up His Left Hook

Times-Union Jacksonville, Fla. Mon 8-26-46

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Aug 25. (AP)—Joe Louis completed his first week of training today in preparation for the defense of his title against Tami Mauriello at the Yankee Stadium September 18 by boxing one round each with Perk Daniels, George Fitch, Teddy Randolph and Elridge Eatman.

Louis used a short left hook effectively against all of his opponents. When Joe was asked if he was perfecting any special punch or figuring on any particular style for Mauriello, Louis said: "I am just training hard to get into shape or keep the condition I am in now."

Joe said he weighed 212 pounds. The champion appeared to be in excellent condition and his legs which seemed unusually heavy before the Conn fight now seemed to carry no unnecessary poundage.

Louis has now boxed 20 rounds in preparation for the Mauriello fight. He will work out every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday right up until a couple of days before the scrap.

THE CHALLENGER AND CHAMPION SIGN FOR TITLE BOUT

The Times New York, N.Y. Sat 9-7-46

Tami Mauriello and Joe Louis after signing contracts here yesterday for their fifteen-round match to be held in the Yankee Stadium on Sept. 18. Looking on is Mike Jacobs.

Associated Press

Joe Louis and Tami Mauriello, who will meet for the former's heavyweight championship of the world at the Yankee Stadium on Sept. 18, had a meeting of a different sort yesterday. The pair appeared at the offices of the New York State Athletic Commission, where each posted a $5,000 certified check to guarantee appearance on the night of the fight.

The rivals chatted amiably as they went through the business formality, Mauriello asking Louis how his new restaurant in Harlem was doing, and Louis expressing envy over the fine golf course Mauriello had at his disposal when he was training at the Jumping Brook Country Club in Neptune, N. J. Sat. 9-7-46

Formal examinations of the fighters will take place next week. Louis will be looked over by a commission physician at his camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J., on Tuesday, and Mauriello will undergo inspection at his gym in the Bronx the next day.

MAURIELLO IN BRISK DRILL

The Times

Louis' Challenger Boxes Five Rounds After Roadwork

New York, N.Y.

While Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis was opening his new Harlem restaurant yesterday, Tami Mauriello, Bronx challenger, concentrated on preparations for his title meeting with Louis on Sept. 18 at the Yankee Stadium. Mauriello, training at the Park Arena in the Bronx, boxed five rounds.

Eddie Blunt, Corona veteran, engaged as a sparring partner by Mauriello, went two rounds with the challenger and Tom Altierie donned the gloves for a three-round session with Tami. Thurs. 9-5-46

In the morning Mauriello and Rocky Graziano sped through Central Park as part of their roadwork. Graziano is preparing for his Sept. 27 encounter with Middleweight Champion Tony Zale.

JOE LOUIS AT 207 POUNDS

The Times New York, N.Y.

Boxes Four Rounds at Pompton Lakes—Mauriello Active

Sun. 9-1-46

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Aug. 31 (AP)—Joe Louis weighed 207 pounds today—the same weight he carried when he entered the ring against Billy Conn in June—as he concluded the second week of training for the defense of his title against Tami Mauriello at the Yankee Stadium on Sept. 18.

The champion boxed four rounds today, sending his total to thirty-two rounds since pitching camp for his second post-war title scrap.

Meanwhile, Mauriello went five rounds before a throng of Bronxites in his new training quarters at the Park Arena on upper Park Avenue in New York City.

Both will box again tomorrow.

Louis Shines In First Drill

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Mon. 8-19-46

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Aug. 18—(AP)—Joe Louis began sparring for his Sept. 18 meeting with Tami Mauriello today and looked better bumping four sparmates around on his first day's work than he did in his final sessions for his June bout with Billy Conn.

Although the timing of his high, hard one was a bit off because he has been using it exclusively for golfing purposes since June 19, it was close enough to top form today to belabor Perk Daniels, of Chicago, George Fitch, of New Haven, Elridge Eatman, of Norwalk, Conn., and Teddy Randolph, of New York to the satisfaction of practically everyone except the four who were doing the catching.

Louis is close enough to fighting shape so that he has to take off only five pounds in the exactly one month until he tangles with the Bronx barkeep in Yankee Stadium.

Louis Expected to Make Short Work of Mauriello In Title Bout Tomorrow

Times-Union Jacksonville, Florida

Bronx Barkeep Given Little Chance to Stay Over Few Rounds.

Tues. 9-17-46

By SID FEDER

NEW YORK, Sept. 16, (AP)—There is nothing wrong with Joe Louis' appetite in or out of the ring, so the general impression around and about today was that he would gobble up Tami Mauriello in something like five minutes after the Bronx barkeep is served up to him in Yankee Stadium Wednesday night.

About the best that the bash boulevardiers were saying for the uptown round man today, as the two thumpers wound up their training chores, was that while it lasts Tami would make a hot five session out of it, something like Two-Ton Tony Galento did the night the beer barrel who walks waded in and came about as close as beer and pretzels from dethroning the Bomber back in 1939.

Aside from that, and Mauriello's own proclamation that he wouldn't "freeze up" when he says howdy to Joe because he has just as many arms and fists as the Bomber, no one was holding out much hope that Tami would be around long enough to read a short short story—even if he wanted to. The boys and girls around the ear-scrambling industry were counting this one in minutes instead of rounds — of which there are the usual 15 scheduled.

The possibility that a large number of these 15 would be just extras, like the parsley that's served on the boiled potatoes, didn't bother Gus Fan and the missus much, however.

Promoter Mike Jacobs took a late look at the box office and felt no pain at all. If the sale keeps going at its current rate, he forecast, some 30,000 customers will parade into the Bronx ball yard Wednesday night for the 8:30 P. M. (EDT) post-time—the main bout goes off at 10 P. M.—and they'll chip in to a gate within shouting distance of $300,000. Which is quite a shout, at that, for this one.

Louis Twenty-third Defense.

The few folks who still gave Tami a chance to wreck Louis' reign in this twenty-third defense of the longest heavyweight run in history based their long-shot stabs on the fact that Tami comes flailing in there and can hurt any man he hits. They try to sell you the idea that if guys like Galento and Buddy Baer and Jim Braddock and Max Schmeling could knock a young Joe Louis down in the past, why can't the Bronx barkeep do the same, only more so, to a 32-year old Joe?

The reply to that fifty-two-fifty question is that no one knows Mauriello's free-wheeling style and open air swinging tactics better than a fellow named Joe Louis, and he has enough answers to fill a quiz show. He's figuried out the little half-step back to meet Mauriello's rush, the jab to straighten Tami up, and the right hand inside that should ice the cake.

And in his closing sparring session today, after waltzing through three rounds, he uncovered some of this strategy in a fourth heat against Elkridge Eatman of Norwalk, Conn., who has a punching style somewhat similar to Mauriello's. He even threw in a new touch—stepping inside to tag Eldridge with short hooks that probably made the nutmeg stater figure he'd been hit with a burlap bag full of those home-state nutmegs.

Joe weighed 209 after it was over, topping off the workout by tearing his punching bag off its moorings with a right hand clout just by way of showing his satisfaction at the end of the dull pre-fight drilling.

Mauriello went through the motions in his uptown gym, scaling about 197, which puts him in about as good condition as he's ever been. This, of course, means more than a little bit in a heavyweight title fight, but the old equalizer—as the beachcombers along Jacobs' beach put it—is the big item. And Joe still sports it—or a reasonable facsimile thereof. We'll take the Bomber inside three rounds.

Louis Says Tami Will Land Punch Only By Accident

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. Sun. 9-8-46

Pompton Lakes, N. J., Sept. 7 (AP)—After resting for a week because he thought himself "getting too sharp," world heavyweight Champion Joe Louis sparred for four rounds in preparation for his bout with Tami Mauriello at Yankee Stadium in New York Sept. 18.

Louis weighed 210 pounds after boxing two rounds with sparring partner Perk Daniels, and one each with Teddy Randolph and Eldridge Eatman.

At the end of the workout, Louis told interviewers:

"I don't think a fellow can take many of Mauriello's punches and stand up. I surely don't intend to let him get in a punch. Any punches he gets in will be by accident."

Louis said he expected to be down to 207 pounds for the fight.

Louis-Mauriello Bout Won't Be Transferred

Times-Dispatch Richmond, Va. Thur. 8-1-46

NEW YORK, July 31—(AP)—The heavyweight championship fight between oJe Louis and Tami Mauriello scheduled for Yankee Stadium September 18, will not be transferred to Detroit, Promoter Mike Jacobs said tonight.

Jacobs said earlier he was considering the possibility of taking the fight to the champion's home town after receiving a telephone call from Michigan Boxing Commissioner John Hettche, who suggested the switch.

After thinking the matter over, the promoter said, he decided not to attempt to take the fight away from New York, a move which would have required a release from his contract with Stadium officials.

Tami Mauriello Steps Up His Training Pace

Times-Union Jacksonville, Fla. Mon. 8-26-46

NEPTUNE, N. J., Aug. 25. (AP)—Tami Mauriello turned on the pressure today in his fourteenth day of boxing for the Joe Louis fight. Concentrating on heavy punching to the body, Mauriello dropped Buddy Moore of New York in the first round and then slammed around Larry Lovett of West Palm Beach, Fla., for two more rounds before 400 persons.

Blasting Moore's body heavily with both hands, Tami switched his attack to the head and floored Buddy with a short, sharp right hand punch. When his head cleared, Moore finished the round and Tami then outboxed Moore in the second round. Against, the speedy Lovett, Tami blocked well and fired both hands at the body, keeping Lovett on the move at all times.

Tami weighed 203 pounds. He will not drill Monday but will work every day for the remainder of the week.

Tami Mauriello Signed to Fight Joe Louis for Title on Sept. 18

P.M. New York, N.Y.

Thurs 7-11-46

This One Costs $30; Mike Jacobs Sees Million-$ Gate

The blow has fallen. Tami Mauriello has signed to fight Joe Louis for the world's heavyweight championship at the Yankee Stadium Sept. 18. What more can be said?

Very little, to be downright honest about it. But if you must have the gory details, so be it. Promoter Mike Jacobs announced the match yesterday, admitting that he expected to gross between $750,000 and $1,000,000 for Louis' 23rd defense of the title he knocked off the noggin of Jimmy Braddock in 1937. For this one, Mike will get from $3 to $30.

Mike told gasping reporters (gasping with the heat, that is!) that Mauriello had "earned" the shot at the champion by his "imposing" record over the past 18 months. In between some all-out tussles with some really fine Italian home-cooked food, Tami won 12 straight fights, 11 by kayos.

In his last outing Tami hammered out England's Bruce Woodcock in five rounds.

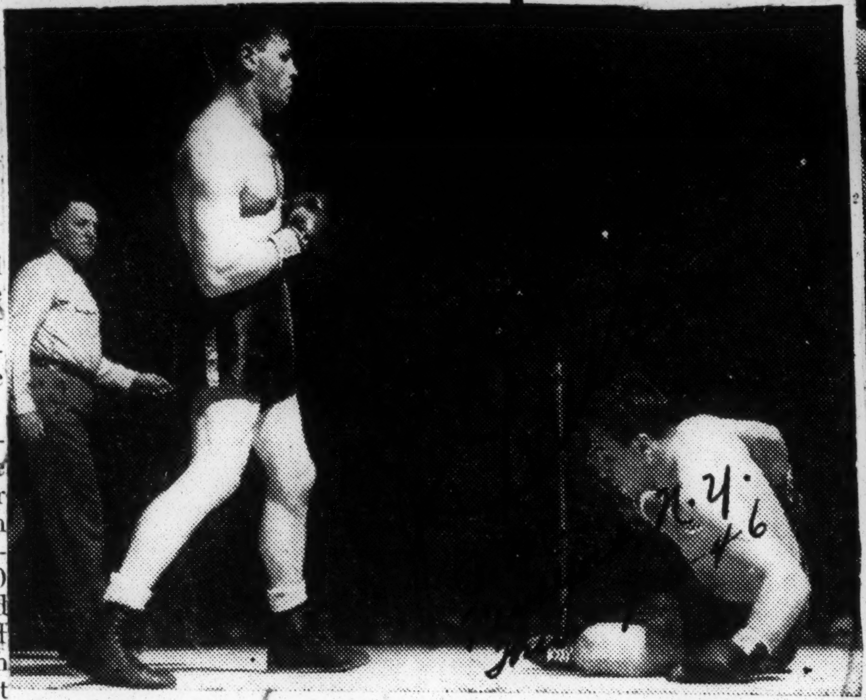
Louis, in Detroit for some golfing, took time out to confirm the match. Asked for comment on his "chances" against Mauriello, Joseph replied with typical Louis candor, "I think I'll be able to take care of myself all right."

The match came as no surprise, though actual signing was delayed a week or so as Mauriello's manager, Lefty Remini, and Jacobs haggled over the challenger's percentage. It is believed in the inner circles along Cauliflower Row that Lefty finally wheedled 18½ per cent for the privilege of placing pudgy Mauriello on the sacrificial lamb list of the great heavyweight champion.

Mauriello is tough, strong and has never been stopped. There is a first time for everything, though, and most experts and fans believe Tami will be finished much more quickly than Bicycle Billy Conn. For one thing, Mauriello has a slightly deformed right ankle which does not lend itself to adagio routines.

Thurs 7-11-46

Secondly, he fights best when he is taggged. He is easy to tag, ergo there should be considerable action



Here's how Tami Mauriello looked when Bob Pastor dropped him to the canvas, something that hasn't happened very often to Tami, but which may happen early and often Sept. 18, as long as it goes.

That will be up to Mr. Louis.

Louis Spars In Warmup For Tami

Times-Dispatch Richmond, Va.

Champ Appears Ready for Bout

Mon 8-19-46

POMPTON LAKE, N. J., Aug. 18—(AP)—Joe Louis began sparring for his September 18 meeting with Tami Mauriello today and looked better bumping four sparmates around on his first day's work than he did in his final sessions for his June bout with Billy Conn.

Although the timing of his high, hard one was a bit off, it was close enough to top form today to belabor Perk Daniels, of Chicago; George Fitch, of New Haven; Eldridge Eatman, of Norwalk, Conn., and Teddy Randolph, of New York, to the satisfaction of precticaly everyone except the four who were doing the catching.

Louis is close enough to fighting shape so that he has to take off only five pounds in the exactly one month until he tangles with the Bronx barkeep in Yankee Stadium.

In Top Shape Now

He arrived here at his regular training base a week ago weighing 209 pounds, just two more than he scaled for Conn in June, and has added another three waiting around for this afternoon's post-time for serious work. The Bomber expects to show up for Mauriello at the same weight as he was for Conn—which makes Tami and Billy even in at least one respect.

Before the workout, his personal physician, Dr. Clerence Hogans, of New York, examined him and pronounced him "in marvelous condition."

Mon 8-19-46

"If you didn't know it, you'd think Joe never broke training from the last time," the doctor added, and some 250 customers who watched the show agreed unanimously.

Daniels and Fitch tagged Joe liberally with jabs, but all of the latter's enjoyment and willingness departed suddenly when Louis dug a smashing left hook into his midsection, easily the best punch of the drill.

Louis to Taper Off

Daily Worker N.Y.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Sept. 1 (UP).—Marshall Miles, Joe Louis' manager, said today that the heavyweight champion, now at 207 pounds, was too fine and that he would lay off boxing for several days as he trains for his Sept. 18 defense against Tami Mauriello.

"Joe planned to fight at 207," Miles said, "and the fight still is three weeks away. He'll do light road work and calisthenics only for the next few days."

Mon. 9-2-46

Louis suffered a bruise under his

OFF ONCE MORE TO TRAIN FOR DEFENSE OF TIT

Times New York, N.Y. Sat. 8-10-46

Joe Louis outside Madison Square Garden as he left yesterday for his camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J., to prepare for his bout with Tami Mauriello on Sept. 18.

Associated Press

Joe Louis returned to New York yesterday from his home in Detroit to begin training for the next defense of his title, against Tami Mauriello of the Bronx at the Yankee Stadium on Sept. 18. The heavyweight champion visited Mike Jacobs at the latter's Twentieth Century Sporting Club office, and then went on to Pompton Lakes, N. J., where he will do his training.

Louis said he weighed 210 pounds, only three more than he did for his last fight, against Billy Conn on June 19. He attributes his good weight to the fact that he had been playing considerable golf since his meeting with Conn.

The Bomber will take things easy at Pompton Lakes for a while, and won't begin heavy work until Aug. 18. Then he will start a series of fifteen boxing sessions with sparring partners. Louis will leave camp only twice. Next Friday he will attend a boys' club program in Washington, and on Sept. 1 he will supervise the opening of a Harlem restaurant in which he has a share.

Louis, Mauriello

Finish Training For Big Fight

Charleston S.C.

Tues. 9-17-46

By SID FEDER

New York, Sept. 16.—(AP): There is nothing wrong with Joe Louis' appetite in or out of the ring, so the general impression around and about today was that he would gobble up Tami Mauriello in something like five minutes after the Bronx barkeep is served up to him in Yankee stadium Wednesday night.

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The possibility that a large number of these 15 would be just extras didn't bother Gus Fan and the missus much, however.

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The few folks who still gave Tami a chance to wreck Louis' reign in this 23rd defense of the longest heavyweight run in history based their long-shot stabs on the fact that Tami comes flailing in there and can hurt any man he hits. They try to sell you the idea that if guys like Galento and Buddy Baer and Jim Braddock and Max Schmeling could knock a young Joe Louis down in the past, why can't the Bronx barkeep do the same, only more so, to a 32-year-old Joe?

The reply to that question is that no one knows Mauriello's free-wheeling style and open air swinging tactics better than a fellow named Joe Louis, and he has enough answers to fill a quiz show.

Joe weighed 209 after today's workout.

Mauriello scaled about 197.

Joe Louis Drops Sparmate In Drills

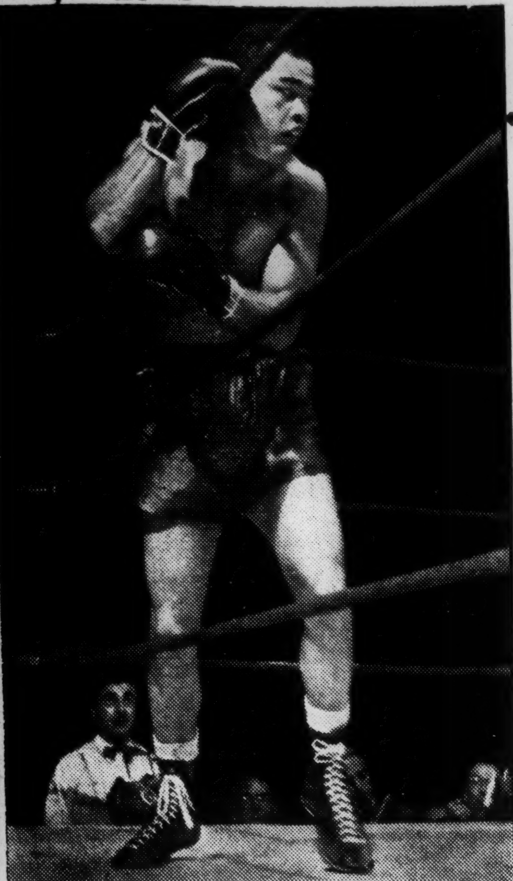
The News Birmingham Ala.

Mon. 9-9-46

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Sept. 9—(AP)—Joe Louis dropped a sparring partner for the first time in nine weeks of postwar boxing yesterday as he turned on the heat in his preparations for his heavyweight title defense against Tami Mauriello Sept. 18 at the Yankee Stadium.

Catching Eldridge Eatman, of Norwalk, Conn., with a left hook to the head, Louis bumped his foe for about 10 seconds, finishing his day's work. Joe has completed 37 rounds of boxing during 10 days of drills and is down to 209 pounds.

The champion will train Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday in the next seven days.



Acme

Associated Press

Cause and effect in Louis-Mauriello swifty: Joe comes out of stagger (left) to bomb Tami off both feet

BOXING: Tami's Lost Chance

Newsweek Dayton, Ohio

He had trained hard for the fight. He first tried the country, but the fresh air and quiet drove him back to the homelike noises of a New York City gym. For a trainer he engaged the services of his old friend Al Silvani. He convinced himself that he was young and tough enough to win. He was 23, had scored eleven straight knockouts, and was never KO'd himself. His friends held a premature victory parade. Then, on the night of Sept. 18, Tami Mauriello came to the end of the dead-end street that heavyweights travel today—he met Joe Louis. *9-30-46*

In the middle of the Yankee Stadium ring, Mauriello hesitated for a moment after the first-round bell, then threw a right-hand punch to Louis's face. The blow staggered the heavyweight champion from the center of the ring to the ropes, and lifted the crowd of 38,494 to its feet. Surprised and angry, Louis rushed back and went to work. A flurry of blows floored Mauriello for the count of nine. When Mauriello got up, the champ worked him over some more. The Bronx Fat Boy went down for good, clutching his head with his left glove. Against a Louis enraged by being hit, Tami, as he later frankly but startlingly told the radio audience, "thought [he] had him and got too God-damned careless." The time: 2 minutes 9 seconds, Louis's fourteenth straight, and second shortest, KO.°

If Louis has lost any of his ability in the past four years, it has yet to be proved. Though Tami in his dressing room cried with mortification at having hit Louis and then lost, his one big punch sent wild hopes through the many contenders who want a shot at Louis. Even Billy Conn called from limbo to ask Promoter Mike Jacobs for another match. A more likely opponent: Bruce Woodcock, heavyweight champion of Great Britain, early next year. Woodcock had been knocked out by Mauriello, but he qualified for the champ's date card by stopping light-heavyweight-champion Gus Lesnevich in London the night before Louis successfully defended his title for the 23rd time.

Sucker Punch

Time Chicago, Ill.

It doesn't pay to hit Joe Louis so hard it hurts him. By keeping things on a friendly basis, such smart boxers as Bob Pastor and Billy Conn induced the Brown Bomber to toy with them for as many as eleven and 13 rounds before the inevitable kill. But Tami (rhymes with mammy) Mauriello, the tubby Bronx challenger, decided to play rough. At the opening bell of last week's title fight he walked out from his corner, took one look at the overconfident Louis, and pitched a right with the urgency of a man unloading a hand grenade. It connected, and the world's heavyweight champion went reeling across the ring. *9-30-46*

If Tami had been quicker on the trigger, he might have followed up his advantage. Instead, he reaped the whirlwind. While the small (38,494) Yankee Stadium crowd was still oohing in amazement, Louis bounced off the ropes and went to work. Tami went down under a barrage of lefts and rights, got up at the count of nine.

... more solid sock, took half a ... return. Then he slid slowly down ... and assumed the inelegant position ... 20 Louis challengers before him.

When his head stopped buzzing, he explained it all very clearly, on the ABC national hookup. Said he: "I thought I could knock him out but I got too goddam careless." Said the announcer: "Thanks very much, Tami."

The time of the knockout, 2 min. 9 sec. of the first round, was a near record for Louis. In 1938 it took Joe just 2 min. 4 sec. to polish off Max Schmeling, who had made the mistake of knocking out Louis in their previous meeting.

Joe Louis Konks Boy From Bronx

The News Birmingham, Ala.

BY GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK, Sept. 19—(AP)—They dug up another heavyweight last night, Tami Mauriello, who was not scared of Joe Louis, and Tami wound up like so many of his predecessors have, a-blubbering in his dressing room after having been knocked out by the great Negro fighter in the first round. *Thurs. 9-19-46*

The Bronx barkeep was not over-awed by the champion, with the very first punch of their title bout in Yankee Stadium, Mauriello clipped Joe on the temple and sent him reeling into the ropes as the throng rose and bellowed its excitement.

And then Louis, more surprised than hurt, by his later admission, took after Tami, tore him apart and left him draped helplessly over the middle rope in 2:09 of the opening stanza. It was Joe's 23rd successful defense of his title.

"I thought I had him," Tami cried as he sat later with a towel draped around his dejected head. "I thought I had him, and I grew careless."

At that, and in the tradition of another tavern keeper, Tony Galento, Mauriello did not "die" on his way to fight Louis. He went in there cocky, exploded his best punches on the champion's jaw, and went down only after he had been beaten into helpless exhaustion.

The echo of the starting bell still was bouncing around through the stadium's triple deck when Mauriello threw the first punch of the fight, a looping right, that caught Louis flush and sent him floundering against the ropes.

Joe said later he never saw the punch coming—didn't even know whether it had been a right or a left. "I want to see the movies of that one," he admitted.

Though it was a stiff wallop, it didn't appear to daze the champ. He was right back, tearing into Mauriello with a flurry of terrific lefts and rights, and within seconds nearly ripped Tami's head off with a clean left hook to the button.

Tami's 198½ pounds hit the canvas with a bump. He started to rise at five, but thought better of it and settled back for the count of nine. Then he came up punching.

From that point, until the end came about a minute later, it was a fine brawl. Almost second by second as Louis poured the leather to him, Tami's features became more puffed and bloody, but he never ceased to fight back.

Once, over in a neutral corner, he slammed home another right to the button that caused Louis to bend like a reed and momentarily stemmed the fury of the champion's attack. But only momentarily.

Heavy at 211 1-4 pounds and obviously packing cruel power in his blows, Louis stayed on top of Mauriello and snapped them home. A few of them missed in Joe's anxiety to get it over with, but most of them landed. *Thurs. 9-19-46*

Finally another left hook slammed the game Tami to the floor in the exact spot he had landed the first time. With a mighty effort he pulled himself to the middle strand, and with his face cradled in his glove and his legs powerless to lift him higher, he listened to Referee Arthur Donovan count the final 10.

This Is 'Americanism'

The News and Courier Charleston, S.C.

The rising of the common man into the rank of economic royalist (the phrase was invented by the late President Roosevelt who was born to wealth and high society) is, as The News and Courier has contended, "Americanism" in action, and an example proving it is that Joe Louis, colored, who knocked out Tami Mauriello in two minutes and nine seconds at Yankee Stadium last Wednesday night, received $103,611.89 as his share of the swag and Mauriello received $38,854 as his share. These citizens are, or were, common men, extra common in fact, and in South Carolina, a man becomes an "economic royalist" when he earns $38,854 in less than three minutes. Thousands of uncommon men helped with their money to convert the pair of common men into economic royalists, and indeed, but for the cheerful and generous contributions of Americans to one another there would be no economic royalists. In all Russia is not a common man who can stand up one minute, much less two minutes and nine seconds, against Economic Royalist Joe Louis, and earn $803 a second. The United States is a land of free enterprise. *Fri. 9-21-46*

Joe Gets $803 Per Second for Battle

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat.

NEW YORK—Although he didn't bother to attend to the collecting personally, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis was paid off in the amount of $103,611.89 for his 12.9 seconds in the ring with Tami Mauriello, Bronx Italian, at Yankee Stadium Wednesday night.

The amount gave the Bomber a pay-day at the rate of $803.11 per second, but Joe was busy appearing a a benefit rally for the Southern Conference of Human Welfare.

He sold handshakes for $10, his necktie and pocket handkerchief for $50 each, and enlivened the affair by venturing "Last night was easier."

Official figures on the Louis-Mauriello gate follow: *9-28-46*

Gross receipts	$335,063.00
Net receipts	259,029.00
Louis's share	103,611.89
Tami's share	38,854.00

CHALLENGER IS 198½ ON GARDEN SCALE

The Times
New York, N.Y.

Confidence Increases in Camp of Mauriello When Louis Is Disclosed at 211¼

Thurs. 9-19-46

JOE PROVIDES A SURPRISE

Experts, Noting Extra Poundage of the Champion, Figure He Looks for Short Battle

"You'd think I was running for President; I'm a popular guy."

In an aside to Promoter Mike Jacobs that was audible to those standing near by, Tami Mauriello passed this remark yesterday as he was weighed for the most important fight of his career, the battle that offered him the chance to achieve the goal which is every boxer's — the world heavyweight title.

The Bronx fighter was on the raised platform in Madison Square Garden, where the weighing ceremonies were gone through "for the movies." The actual weighing and physical examination of the champion, Joe Louis, and Mauriello had been completed in one of the hockey dressing rooms, away from the noise and confusion which ordinarily attach to these ceremonies.

Mauriello had just gone through the experience of edging his way through a crowd of more than 1,000 clustered about the Forty-ninth Street entrance to the Garden. The longest, hardest, most sincere training grind of his career was behind this gladiator who has never been known to be too conscientious in training. He was over the close-up meeting with the man from whom he hoped within a few hours to wrest the heavyweight crown. His spirits were high, confidence undiminished, his determination unflagging.

A Glorified Ceremony

Tami was unaffected by the close proximity to Louis, the murderous puncher. Unlike others in similar circumstances, he did not quail. On the surface, at least, this was just another fight so far as he was concerned, except, of course, this elaborate weighing was a more glorified ceremony than any previous similar experience for him.

It is not of record that Louis and Mauriello did much more than exchange the usual greetings when they met in the privacy of the hockey dressing room, where only State Athletic Commission representatives and the attendants of the boxers were present.

There was no verbal exchange when they appeared on the arena platform, facing a battery of still and movie cameras, along with a newsreel sound-track. There, in front of assembled newspaper men and with Commissioners James Bruno and Dr. Clilan B. Powell supervising the event, they were weighed while cameras clicked for posterity. Chairman Eddie Eagan, it was announced, missed train connections from a suburban point, arriving too late to direct matters. It was the first time in modern history that a commission chairman missed a heavyweight championship weighing.

The scales revealed Louis heavier than he has ever been in his career. He weighed 211¼ pounds. Mauriello was 198½ pounds.

Explanation by Associate

Surprise was occasioned by Louis' weight and experts immediately began trying to explain the discrepancy between the 211¼ pounds and the 260 or 207 Louis, in training, declared he was aiming at. George Nicholson, veteran associate of the titleholder, insisted that Louis did not aim to reducing during his training siege. "He just paced himself to keep strong," said Nicholson.

Less inttimate observation interpreted Louis' poundage as a reflection of an indifferent training course, as if the champion regarded Mauriello as of inferior ability, minimizing the danger from the challenegr. They felt he was less serious about his conditioning than he had been for his previous title defenses in the expectation he was in for a short, quick, successful battle against an ordinary opponent.

Louis' highest previous battle weight was 207½, the poundage he carried innto the ring at Madison Square Garden on March 27, 1942, when he knocked out the gigantic Abe Simon in sixteen seconds of the sixth round. He weighed 207 in his eight-round knockout victory over Billy Conn last June 9.

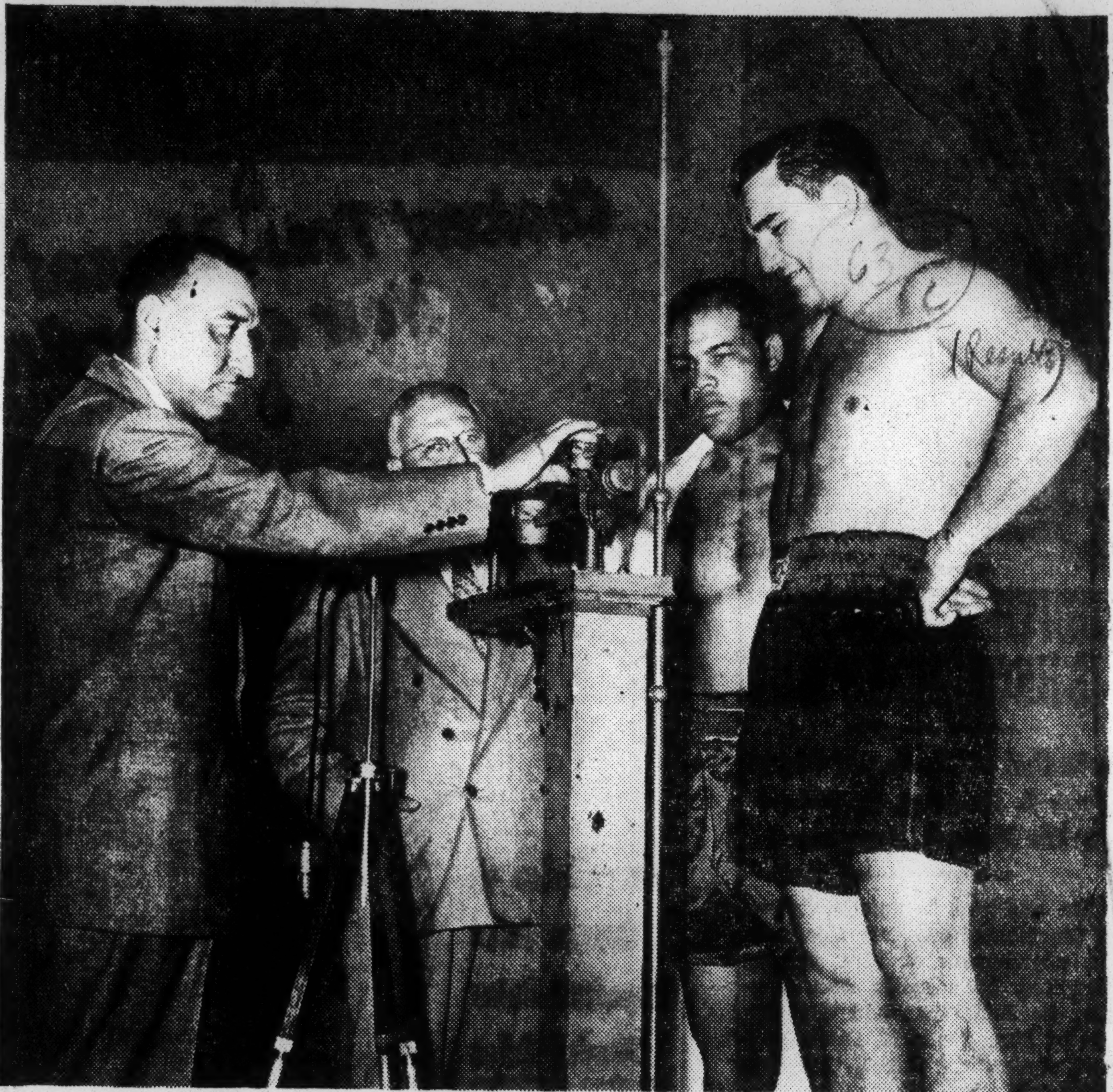
Jacobs Makes Revelation

The extra weight was carried in the abdomen, a fatty cushion hardly discernible to the naked eye. The scales, however, told the tale, and increased the confidence of the Mauriello camp. Not minimizing this confidence was the discovery that Louis was more insistent on a return bout guarantee in signing for Mauriello than he had ever been before. Promoter Jacobs revealed this fact following the weighing, when he disclosed he had both Louis and Mauriello under exclusive contract. Another contract guarantees Louis a return bout within ninety days in the event he loses the title.

Physical examination of the champion and challenger was conducted by Dr. Vincent J. Nardiello, who found both "in very good shape." Noting that Louis "was not as drawn as before, that he looked better on the outside for other fights," Dr. Nardiello found the pulses of champion and challenger normal, although Louis' was a bit rapid.

Louis' pulse was 74 before exercise and 90 after. His blood pressure was 130 over 90. Mauriello's pulse was 72 before exercise and 86 after. His blood pressure was 118 over 78.

WEIGHING IN THE CONTENDER FOR TITLE BOUT



Dr. Clilan B. Powell of the New York State Athletic Commission checking on Tami Mauriello with Joe Louis looking on.

The New York Times

Louis Got $803.11 Per Second In Short Scrap

The Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

NEW YORK, Sept. 19.—(AP) — Joe Louis was paid off today at the rate of $803.11 per second for his in-a-hurry knockout of Tami Mauriello last night, amid growing acclaim that he's just about THE greatest of them all and as a far-flung manhunt got under way to pick out a future victim for the Bomber.

Promoter Mike Jacobs figured out that Joe's 40 per cent of the net gate of $259,029, left from the $335,063 gross after taxes and other odds and ends were taken out, was $103,611.89 for the 2 minutes, 9 seconds it took him to dispose of the tubby Bronx barkeeper, in his 23rd defense of the heavyweight crown. Tami's slice of the pie, 15 per cent, amounted to $38,854 Wed 9-25-41.

Fight Footnotes

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Most of the 38,494 fans who came out for the Louis-Mauriello fight put in appearance not with the idea that Joe would lose the fight, but simply because in any heavyweight championship match there is one chance in a million that the titleholder may drop that sugared crown, consequently nobody, particularly the regular ringsiders, wants to be among the missing when and if it happens.

A day-before announcement that 14,000 grandstand seats would be sold for $3 helped inject a little life in the bout, but succeeded only in preventing the match from being held in private as it seemed it might for weeks before the big date. Sat. 9-28-46

Tami proved to be just what everybody thought he was, a strong, willing guy with an ambition to be heavyweight champion of the world.

Joe, now 32, showed that he reacts as quickly as he always has.

The whole town was dead in comparison to other fight days. There were no sidewalk mobs milling about waiting for the appearance of the champion, and although 20,000 paid to see the World Series, Tuesday night, Theresa Hotel, the usual headquarters for the fight mob, was like a smalltown hotel with only a few of the regulars hanging about the lobby.

Joe's new restaurant and bar, where the prices are sky high, was only sparsely populated on pre-fight night although business picked up on fight day.

The ringside price, $30, was $70 less than for the June Louis-Conn fight but even that failed to send the fans scurrying to Mike Jacobs's plush 49th St. headquarters.

There were no lobbyist, fingering huge bankrolls and talking out of the side of their mouths about how much they wanted to bet. Indeed, if there had been, it is doubtful that there would have been any takers.

It was Joe's 31st straight victory and 14th consecutive kayo. He has lost only one in 58—the Max Schmeling knockout in 1936.

Tami had 69 wins in 77 fights, lost seven, held to a draw once and had 51 kayos, one more than the Brown Bomber, but he didn't have enough guns.

In Joe's corner were Mannie Seamon, George Nicholson and Larry Amadee, while Trainer Al Silvani, Manager Lefty Remini and Dan Florio worked with Tami.

—ART CARTER

Birmingham, Ala. News
Sept. 19, 1946

Joe Louis Konks Boy From Bronx

BY GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK, Sept. 19—(AP)—They dug up another heavyweight last night, Tami Mauriello, who was not scared of Joe Louis, and Tami wound up like so many of his predecessors have, a-blubbering in his dressing room after having been knocked out by the great Negro fighter in the first round.

The Bronx barkeep was not over-awed by the champion. with the very first punch of their title bout in Yankee Stadium, Mauriello clipped Joe on the temple and sent him reeling into the ropes as the throng rose and bellowed its excitement.

And then Louis, more surprised than hurt, by his later admission, took after Tami, tore him apart and left him draped helplessly over the middle rope in 2:09 of the opening stanza. It was Joe's 23rd successful defense of his title.

"I thought I had him," Tami cried as he sat later with a towel draped around his dejected head. "I thought I had him, and I grew careless."

At that, and in the tradition of another tavern keeper, Tony Galento, Mauriello did not "die" on his way to fight Louis. He went in there cocky, exploded his best punches on the champion's jaw, and went down only after he had been beaten into helpless exhaustion.

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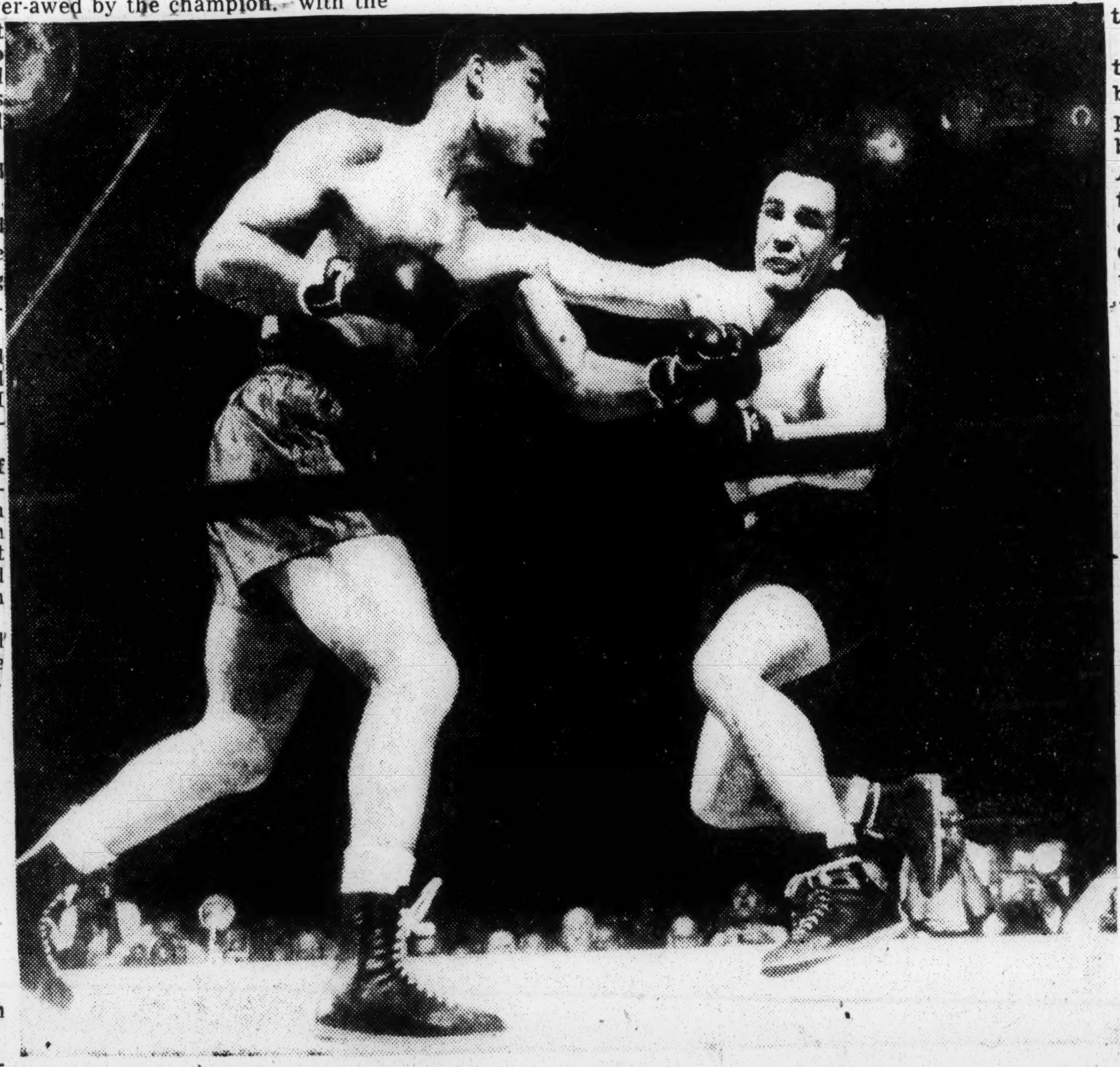
From that point, until the end came about a minute later, it was a fine brawl. Almost second by second as Louis poured the leather to him, Tami's features became more puffed and bloody, but he never ceased to fight back.

Once, over in a neutral corner, he slammed home another right to the button that caused Louis to bend like a reed and momentarily stemmed the fury of the champion's attack. But only momentarily.



FEET OFF THE GROUND—Challenger Tami Mauriello (right) is lifted off his feet by a left from Champion Joe Louis in the opening round of their scheduled 15-round heavyweight title fight at the Yankee Stadium last night. Louis successfully defended his title for the 23rd time by knocking out the Bronx challenger in two minutes and nine seconds of the first round. (Associated Press wirephoto.)

Heavy at 211 1-4 pounds and obviously packing cruel power in his blows, Louis stayed on top of Mauriello and snapped them home. A few of them missed in Joe's anxiety to get it over with, but most of them landed.

him higher, he listened to Referee Arthur Donovan count the final 10

Finally another left hook slammed the game Tami to the floor in the exact spot he had landed the first time. With a mighty effort he pulled himself to the middle strand, and with his face cradled in his glove and his legs powerless to lift

LOUIS KNOCKS OUT MAURIELLO IN FIRST AND RETAINS TITLE

The Times

Yankee Stadium Fight Lasts Only 2 Minutes 9 Seconds Before Crowd of 25,000

New York, N.Y.

CHALLENGER DOWN TWICE

Thurs. 9-19-46

Floored for Count of 9 Early in Round—Joe Defends His Crown for 23d Time

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Joe Louis of Detroit successfully defended his world heavyweight boxing championship for the twenty-third time by knocking out Tami Mauriello of the Bronx in 2 minutes 9 seconds of the first round of their scheduled fifteen-round fight at the Yankee Stadium last night. The Brown Bomber floored his rival twice, the first time for a count of nine.

Mauriello was the first to enter the ring. Clad in a blazing red bathrobe, fringed with a white piping, the challenger hopped briskily through the ropes while Announcer Harry Balogh was introducing Tony Zale, world middleweight champion, and Rocky Graziano, who are to fight for the title on Sept. 27. The cheers for the challenger almost drowned out the announcement.

Dewey Is Introduced

Louis, clad in the familiar blue and crimson silk robe that has been his apparel in all of his title fights, entered the ring while the cheers for Mauriello were echoing over the arena. The presence of Gov. Dewey was called to the attention of the crowd by Balogh who introduced the executive from the ring. Mr. Dewey stood at his front-row seat and acknowledged the greeting of the crowd.

The referee was Arthur Donovan, whose introduction brought a cheer from the crowd. Marty Monroe and Frank Forbes were the judges. It was announced that Louis weighed 211¼ pounds and Mauriello 198½.

The crowd was estimated at 25,00%.

It was 10:13 on the clock overlooking center field when Louis and Mauriello were called to the center of the ring for instructions.

Mauriello rocked Louis with a right to the head. Louis dropped Mauriello with a left hook for the count of nine. Mauriello rocked Louis with a right to the jaw. Louis drove a right to the body and a right to the jaw. Louis ripped a right to the ribs. Louis hooked a left to the head. Louis dropped Mauriello with a two-fisted attack for the count of ten. Louis won by a knockout.

Fans Slow in Arriving

As is traditional with outdoor boxing events of importance, the crowd for this second post-war heavyweight championship was slow in arriving. There was no occasion to rush; no necessity for a wild, last-minute scramble. Plenty of seats were available at all prices, from the 14,000 $3 admissions which promoter Mike Jacobs placed on sale early in the evening, through the other prices on the scale which ran through $5, $10, $20 and $30.

Jacobs of necessity discarded his glorified raised ringside seating arrangement, the surplus property aluminum structure he introduced so successfully at the unlamented Louis-Conn fight last June 19.

The trucking strike dictated this abandonment. Consequently, the Twentieth Century S. C. head limited his ringside seat section to twenty roys in sixteen sections. All these seats were on the flat of the playing field. The bleachers were not used, an arrangement which provided the best bargain in general admittance locations in the history of heavyweight championships.

Thurs. 9-19-46

The entire upper stand was thrown open without reservation for the $3 ticket-holders. As an appraisal of this seat value it need only be mentioned that some of these upper stand seats brought $30 and $40 for the Louis-Conn bout which, it will be remembered, was scaled to $100.

Ringside Seats Empty

The upper-stand section was the busiest as the doors opened. Fans trickled in steadily from the time the gates were lifted, shortly after 6 o'clock. At 7:30, close to 5,000 were seated "upstairs" and the line of new arrivals was unbroken.

Ringside seats yawned emptily, until 8 o'clock, or about twenty minutes before the first bout entered the ring. In the lower stand and the mezzanine deck the crowd was sparse as the boxing card got under way, a condition which was true of the ringside section as well. But ticket-holders were coming in steadily.

Betting on the fight became more active as ring-time approached and the wide open price on Louis shortened. The odds when

the first bout entered the ring favored Louis at 1 to 6 and 1 to 8.

Since the crowd was smaller than is customary at heavyweight title bouts, the representation of different classes was necessarily on a moderate basis. But, it was there as usual. *The Times*

Stars of the stage and screen and radio; figures of importance in world affairs and in the affairs of nation, State, city and county; industrialists, financiers, merchants, doctors, lawyers, professors in the arts and sciences, along with the every-day fight-followers — they were all there. The bout drew up to its limit in appeal. *New York, N.Y.*

Among the spectators at the bout were Governor Dewey, Mayor O'Dwyer, Postmaster General Bob Hannegan, former Mayor James J. Walker, Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City, Edward J. Mulrooney, Alfred G. Vanderbilt, Babe Ruth, Al Jolson, Joe E. Lewis and many other prominent persons. *Thurs. 9-19-46*

James J. Braddock, the man from whom Louis won the title, was there, too. Jack Dempsey, still regarded by many as the greatest of all titleholders, also was on hand, but while the others were in the first or second rows ringside, and some in the working press section, Dempsey had to be content with a seat in the eighth row. J. Edgar Hoover, Jockey Eddie Arcaro, Lou Smith, Rockingham track owner, and General Rosy O'Donnell were among others noted at the ringside.

Elaborate police arrangements made it an orderly crowd. These arrangements were planned on a sell-out basis with that thoroughness for which ew York's "finest" is noted. An army of more than 500 policemen, uniformed and in plain clothes, as well as in the khaki of the temporary officers recently appointed, was detailed to the Stadium.

This protective group included foot patrolmen and mounted men, as well as a traffic detail. They were under the direction of Assistant Chief Inspector James Sheehy, commanding officer of the Seventeenth Division, and Deputy Chief Inspectors J. J. McDonald and John J. O'Connor. Deployed at the Stadium proper and for blocks around, they were prepared for any emergency but were occupied chiefly in keeping traffic, pedestrian and vehicular, moving smoothly. This they did to perfection.

Ambulance Is Included

A public address car, an emergency truck and special emergency booths installed at several points about the Stadium, with a Department of Hospitals ambulance, were included in the detail.

A group of 130 firemen under Acting Deputy Chief William P. Murphy were assigned to duty inside the Stadium, augmenting the detail of city and special police and ushers, guides and directors.

The night was notable for the return to action of Arthur Donovan, veteran referee who has an international reputation after having officiated in most of the ring championships since the sports was legalized here. This was his first assignment since his acquittal on charges which followed the death of a friend in a street fight.

Donovan started the evening as knockdown timekeeper, sharing the referee assignment with Eddie Joseph and Harry Ebbets, the latter a former middleweight fighter. It was Donovan's first ring assignment since the closing stages of the last indoor season.

Another newcomer to the ringside limelight was Dr. Vincent J. Nardiello, State Athletic Commission physician, who was assigned for emergency, replacing the late Dr. William H. Walker.

Ideal weather conditions favored the event and, at the same time, boosted attendance and receipts. The perfect weather of the last few days brought an increased demand for tickets which reached its climax in the summer-like weather of yesterday. Fall wraps were cumbersome in the open air of the battle arena, where the humidity was relieved by a faint breeze.

Joe Louis Explodes Right To End Fight

Daily World

Mauriello Goes Down For Count In First Round

Atlanta, Ga.
Thurs. 9-19-46

YANKEE STADIUM, NEW YORK CITY—(SNS)— Joe Louis, the internationally famous Brown Bomber of Detroit, Mich., exploded his atomic right to polish off Tami Mauriello, 23-year-old Bronx tavern owner in two minutes and nine seconds of the first round to retain the world's heavyweight crown.

Mauriello beat Louis to the punch as the schedule 15-round championship bout got underway, staggering the champ with a right to the head. This blow caught Louis momentarily off balance and he was forced to hang on.

The Brown Bomber countered with a solid right that sent Mauriello to the canvas. He started to get up at the count of five, went back down and was up at the count of nine.

PUT ON QUEER STREET

Mauriello came back and staggered the champion again, this time using a left-hand punch. Then Louis pounded Mauriello with a volley of rights and lefts and crossed the atomic right to put him on "queer street."

This marked the 23rd time that Louis has successfully defended his crown, since he knocked out Jimmy Braddock in her eighth round of their title bout back in June 1937.

An estimated crowd of 30,000 paid around $300,000 to see the bout. Louis weighed in at 211¼, the heaviest weight he has ever carried in the ring, and Mauriello tipped the scales at 198½.

Arthur Donovan was the third man in the ring and the judges were Frank Forbes and Marty Monroe.

Other first round victims of the Brown Bomber since he lifted the crown from Jim Braddock's brow includes: Max Schmeling, John Henry Lewis, Jack Roper, and Buddy Baer.

THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

No Need for Louis to Quit

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 9-28-46

With two convincing victories tucked under his belt since he shed GI clothes, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis still rules the world of sock with a sturdy fist. If there was any doubt as to whether the Brown Bomber still had "it" when he came out of the Army, it has all been removed now. On the nights of June 19 and Sept. 18, "Mr. Wallop" disposed of his two foremost challengers, Messrs. Conn and Mauriello. You can't ask any more of a champion than that, can you? He not only disposed of them, but as they say in good old Brooklyn—"he moidered 'em."

Much to the surprise of everyone, Billy Conn was a "sweet, soft touch." Like all the others who have had the unfortunate experience of getting caught in there with Louis the second time, Conn was far less formidable than the first time. He claims now that he didn't fight his kind of fight. He says he fought the kind of fight his handlers told him to. Conn's inferring, of course, that they gave him the wrong instructions on how to go after the King of Swat.

However, he should know by now that there isn't any way to fight Joe Louis. The best way to handle a guy like him is to stay away from him—far, far away. His handlers should have told him that.

Tami Mauriello proved to be a much gamer and a more gallant fighter than Conn. He even took a good pot-shot at the Champion and shook his Highness up considerably. But Tami's fate was the same as all the others. He got his beak lifted and his panties dirty. Louis buried him in the resin . . . and they carried Tami back to his bar in New York's teeming Bronx, a-weepin' and a-wailing'.

And, when they toted Tami's battered body through the doors of his gin-mill, all his odl friends—"Tony the Wop," "Harry Horseface," "One-Gun Angelo," and all the others broke down and weeped. And Tami and his managers cried with them. It was a sad state of affairs, indeed. Tami had gone the way of all flesh.

All of which menas, of course, that Joe Louis is still head and shoulders above his challengers. There are many people who want him to quit and retire undefeated. But with such easy pickings, it's going to be very difficult to convince him to hang up his gloves.

And when you think about it seriously, you can't help asking yourself: "Why should he?" *Sat. 9-28-46*

As they say in good old Brooklyn—"He's moider, that man is. Yes sir, he's moider!"

Mike Jacobs Starts Manhunt to Locate Future Fodder for Joe Louis' Fists

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. Fri. 9-20-46

By SID FEDER.

New York, Sept. 19 (AP)—Joe Louis was paid off today at the rate of $803.11 per second for his in-a-hurry knockout of Tami Mauriello last night, amid growing acclaim that he's just about T-H-E greatest of them all and as a far-flung manhunt got under way to pick out a future victim for the Bomber.

Promoter Mike Jacobs figured out that Joe's 40 per cent of the net gate of $259,029, left from the $335,063 gross after taxes and other odds and ends were taken out, was $103,611.89 for the 2 minutes, 9 seconds it took him to dispose of the tubby Bronx barkeeper, in his 23d defense of the heavyweight crown. Tami's slice of the pie, 15 per cent, amounted to $38,854.

Having checked all the figures, Mike said Joe would next fight in January or February. Jacobs meantime, got the manhunt for a June, 1947, challenger under way by tentatively outlining an elimination plan involving such thumpers as Jersey Joe Walcott, Elmer "The Violent" Ray, Joe Baksi, Joey Maxim, British champ Bruce Woodcock, and Tami once more. The general opinion after Uncle Mike let the folks in on the idea, however, was that it would be just as well to send all six of them in there at once, just so it might be close to even.

CHARITY AFFAIR

Joe, himself, didn't even show up to collect his pay-check. He let his managers take care of the sordid finances, while he made an appearance at a charity affair and then went out to play some golf, just as he did after his clambake with Billy Conn last June. He is probably the only man in the world who figures golf is more important than collecting six-figure bundles of cash.

Incidentally, Billy Conn's name also was penciled in on the future picture late in the day. The Pittsburgh pretty boy, who was flattened by Joe in eight rounds the last time they got together, feels low over charges in some quarters that he quit that night. So this afternoon he got Jacobs on the phone and offered to fight Louis any time any place and contribute his entire purse to charity. "Only this time," he demanded, "I want to fight him my way, with no advice from my handlers."

The Bomber is going to put his bombs away, however, until next January or February before he walks out there and gets the chopping block in action again. There's no doubt it's a chopping block—with Joe carrying a meat axe in each hand. He never demonstrated it more completely and capably than last night when he came back from an astonishing right hand with which Muariello staggered him in the early moments, to drop the round man from uptown once and then beat him into the proportions of a well dissected fricassee chicken in the second quickest knockout in modern heavyweight history.

PAST DECADES

The only quicker one in the past four decades was the 2:04 it took the Bomber to carve up Max Schmeling, and the only one ever chalked up in more of a hurry in all history was the 1 minute, 28 seconds Tommy Burns required to turn the lights out for Jem Roche at Dublin, Ireland, in March, 1908.

There are some mashed-nose historians however, who contend that was in the confused days following Jim Jefferies' retirement, and that Tommy was only one of the claimants to the crown at the time. So there's some dispute as to just whether it could be considered a clear heavyweigt title knockout with no ifs or whereases. As a matter of fact, it wasn't until after Tommy Belted out Bill Squares in Australia in August of that year that he won general recognition as boss of them all.

Jacobs rejected any idea that Louis might go to London to tangle with Woodcock. The British champion was stiffened by Mauriello here last May and Mike says now he'll have to come back and "get a few more wins" before he would dare to serve Bruce up to Joe.

Long Rest for Heavyweight Champion

WORTHY OPPONENT SOUGHT FOR LOUIS

The Times New York, N.Y.

Woodcock, English Boxer, May Come Here Next Year for Bout With Titleholder

Fri. 9-20-46

ZALE FIGHT ATTRACTIVE

Big Crowd Expected to Watch Tony Defend Middleweight Crown Against Graziano

By JAMES P. DAWSON

The heavyweight championship situation was slightly confused yesterday in the wake of Joe Louis' one-round knockout victory over Tami Mauriello at the Yankee Stadium.

Promoter Mike Jacobs of the Twentieth Century S. C., who controls the destinies of Louis under exclusive contract, announced that he proposed to arrange an indoor heavyweight title strugle for February in Madison Square Garden, while Marshall Miles, who has been acting as Louis' manager since the dissolution of the old Julian Black-John Roxborough partnership, said that Louis has no intention of fighting again until the 1947 outdoor season.

Mauriello, though knocked out by Louis in 2 minutes 9 seconds, suffered no injury and plans to return to the ring late in December or early in January.

Louis made his first post-fight appearance in public in the garment district yesterday at a meeting of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Then he played golf while his manager visited the Twentieth Century offices to pick up the champion's check for $103,611.89, his share of the fight proceeds. It was figured that Louis earned $803.11 per second in his fight with Mauriello.

Loser Gets 15 Per Cent

Jimmy Rimini, Mauriello's manager, appeared for the beaten challenger, picking up a check for $38,854, the largest purse Mauriello has ever collected. He was paid at the rate of 15 per cent while Louis received 40 per cent of net receipts amounting to $259,028. The gross was $333,063 paid by 38,494 fans. Federal taxes amounted to $59,386 and State taxes $15,617.

Promoter Jacobs now faces the problem of selecting a worthy foe for Louis. Emler (Violent) Ray, Jersey Joe Wolcott, Joe Baksi and Joe Maxim, the last-named Jack Kearns' latest prospect, have been mentioned as candidates for an elimination to determine the next rival for the champion. Jacobs has added Bruce Woodcock, British heavyweight title-holder, to the list, insisting, however, if a Woodcock match is arranged it must be held here, not in England.

For the moment Jacobs is interested first in the Tony Zale-Rocky Graziano world middleweight championship bout which is to be held in the Stadium next Friday night. This match, to be held under seating and ticket-scale conditions that obtained for the Louis-Mauriello shindig, is expected to out-draw the heavyweight title struggle because of the greater interest in a more evenly matched pair. The prices will be $3 for the entire upper grandstand, unreserved, and $5, $10, $20 and $30 for reserved seats.

160-Lb. Title Bout Proposed

Plans for an international 160-pound championship were revealed when Jacobs said that Marcel Cerdan, French champion would be here in December.

Jacobs will open the indoor season on Nov 1 with a welterweight bout between Johnny Greco, Canadian boxer, and Tony Pellone of Greenwich Village at the Garden. Operations at the St. Nicholas Arena are to start Sept. 30, when George (Sonny) Horne, Niles, Ohio, and Pete Mead, Grand Rapids, Mich., middleweight will meet in the feature bout.

Jacobs revealed that Billy Conn, who failed to dethrone Louis in their last meeting, had asked for another trv at the title.

Sports of the Times

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

By ARTHUR DALEY

The Times New York, N.Y.

Still the Champion

WHEN Joe Louis, a gentle and kindly man at heart, saved his close friend, John Henry Lewis, from further punishment by considerately knocking him out in 2:29 of the first round, the Dark Destroyer had only one reaction. "At least he lasted longer than that S'mellin' did," he drawled disdainfully, eyes flashing in a sudden and uncharacteristic gleam of hatred. Max Schmeling had been battered into oblivion in 2:04. *Fri. 9-20-46*

Now that the Brown Bomber has had an opportunity for reflection he probably is very happy that he didn't break his own private par for the course by flattening Tami Mauriello faster than he put away the Black Uhlan. The first round ha dreached 2:09 when the count of ten tolled with Tami still listening to the tunes that the birdies sing. He also lasted longer than Schmeling did.

The deflation of the one-time Bronx Blimp may have seemed to those seeing Louis for the first time to be a savage destruction by an enraged and embarrassed champion. It wasn't, though. This was just a business-like extermination with no more rancor behind it than a man spraying his garden with DDT. The Dark Destroyer had a job to do and he did it as efficiently as possible. He held no more animosity toward Mauriello than a butcher poleaxing a steer.

Schmeling was different, of course. That was the one and only time Louis was really angry, his entire body seething with a black hatred. It wasn't the fact that the German knocked him out previously which caused Joe to develop his loathing for Herr Max. It was Schmeling's Nazi conceit that riled him. Max paid for it as few fighters ever had to pay for anything. Once when he was hit he screamed in agony, the involuntary, blood-curdling gasp of a hurt animal. There probably never was a round containing more pitiless savagery than the opening session of the second Louis-Schmeling fight.

According to Plan

Except for the superficial resemblance in time—2:09 contrasted with 2:04—there was no comparison between the two. On this occasion Louis was the cool, methodical, relentless executioner. He had confided to friends in advance that he was going to strive for a knockout in the very first round. Hence the fact that Tami stung him with a smashing right in the opening seconds and almost felled him did not have anything to do with the quick finish. His plans had been set anyway—irregardless, as they say in Brooklyn and in some sections of Forty-second Street.

Yet that one blow could easily have upset those plans—and the champion, too. It landed on the jawbone instead of the chin. Had it been on the button, a scant two inches lower, there is just no telling what might have happened. Perhaps Mauriello would even be the new heavyweight king, a thought that makes the legion of Louis admirers wince and shudder. But he missed and the end was not long in coming.

However, that one punch made the fight a great, exciting affair. It gave it an element of uncertainty it otherwise would have lacked and jammed into 129 seconds as much pulsating drama as even the most captious customer could demand. Mauriello had proved his courage with that one desperate blow and he proved it even more as he fought back doggedly in the face of ever-mounting odds.

Tami, smarter than anyone expected him to be when he first was sent reeling, remained down for a count of nine instead of leaping to his feet with his usual hot-headed impetuosity. He started to get up, remembered and took a few extra seconds. But when he was smashed to the floor again, even his stout heart could do him no good.

Into the Fog

He hung on the ropes, knees on the canvas, as suppliant as a man in prayer. The fog had swept in over him, numbing his brain and his reflexes. Instinctively he tried to brush it away. His gloved hand moved jerkily in front of his glassy, vacant eyes. The fog didn't budge. It seemed to settle down heavier. Impatiently Tami brushed again. It was no use. He weariedly dropped his head on his arms atop the rope strand. It was over.

In the opposite neutral corner Louis stood, as expressionless as Buddha. He was still the champion of the world. When you look back on it, though, there was one definite impression that every spectator took away with him, the utter majesty of that truly regal figure, Joe Louis. Gosh, but he has class!

The Dark Destroyer has it in superabundance right down to his finger tips. He has it in his kingly bearing and in his every motion in the ring. And he has t out of the ring, too. Being a champion isn't the easiest thing in the world but the Jolter wears his crown as gracefully and as naturally in his simple dignity as if he'd been born to the purple—or more so.

The most harrassed and bewildered man after the fight was not the weeping and disappointed Mauriello. It was Uncle Mike Jacobs who saw a possible return bout blasted out the window and not an opponent in sight for his Meal Ticket. Judging by the way he had Jack Kearns' new heavyweight, Joe Maxim, hustled out of the ring before he could be introduced, Uncle Mike wants no truck with this conqueror of Jersey Joe Walcott. Yet no one ever heard of Mxim up to a few weeks ago. *9-20-46*

Who in the world is going to dethrone Louis, a paragon of punching perfection? I dunno, bub. The Dark Destroyer seems ageless and invincible with his latest performance inclining one to believe that perhaps his conqueror has not yet been born. That's an exaggeration, of course. But

it's going to be a mighty sad day when the Brown Bomber is beaten. His like does not come more than once in a lifetime.

In this corner

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

About a Warm September Nite At Yankee Stadium

Fri 9-20-46

By Bill Mardo

FOR one bold second Tami Mauriello came closer to ring immortality than he had in a young lifetime of professional fighting. Some day, in the 1970s, when he's old and gray, definitely on the stoutish side, Tami and his family of friends will sit around the dinner table talking shop and it's a sure bet that none of them will hark back to Tami's innumerable fights with Baksi or Oma or Bivins. No, they'll only remember a warm September night at Yankee Stadium, in the year '46, when a big, beefy kid from the Bronx pitched a sucker punch from way out in left field that caught the great Joe Louis high on the cheekbone and sent him stumbling backwards across the ring into the ropes.

Then, I imagine, conversation will stop cold for a minute, nobody'll talk, and silent memories will take over at the Mauriello household. Memories of how it went that wild, short-lived fight night at Yankee Stadium:

* * *

The uneventful four-round semi-final was over, the ring was empty and then a deep throaty roar swept its way down from the grandstands to ringside as Mauriello chugged his way down the aisleway, walked up the wooden steps and bounced over the lower strand into the ring. He was bundled in a bright-red robe with a head hood attached to it, only the hood was off now and as Tami turned around in his corner right over our seat, we could see the thin layer of sweat that covered his pale face. Tami was plainly nervous, the happy-go-lucky smile that always creased his face in fights past was understandably absent now, and as he jogged up and down in his corner, loosening up his arms in empty half-swings, you could see the big overgrown kid sucking in breath desperately, as if he were having trouble breathing. For two minutes this continued and every so often Tami'd turn his head slightly and look over to the opposite corner which was empty.

And so another long tension-packed moment prevailed until, finally, another roar cascaded through the ball park as Joe Louis climbed into the ring. The champ never even looked at his perspiring challenger in the other corner, he just sat down, his head covered with towels, his body draped with a handsome purple and red-edged bathrobe. Manny Seamon took his time adjusting Joe's gloves and then, after what must've seemed like an eternity for Tami, the champion got off his stool, straightened out the bottom edge of his trunks, walked to mid-ring and there, for the first time, looked deep into Tami's eyes and then lowered his head as ref Arthur Donovan droned out the customary instructions.

Both men slipped out of their robes while walking back to their respective corners and Tami looked trimmer than one ever thought possible for this kid known far and wide as the Bronx Fat-Boy. There was a slight ring of suet around Louis' waist, he had purposely come in heavy for this fight, but otherwise it was like looking at the same beautifully-built Joe Louis of years gone by. The flat abdomen, the broad sloping shoulders and its obvious suggestion of quiet electric strength. *Fri. 9-20-46*

And then the bell. Joe moved toward mid-ring, his hands held high, his head tilted forward only slightly behind his left shoulder. Tami came out of his corner in a semi-crouch, his left hand alongside his face and the right hooked near his chest. The ringsiders were already murmuring soft "oh-oh's" of disgust as Mauriello stopped about two feet away from the champion, and circled backwards and around. Louis admitted later that he relaxed slightly at that unexpected sign of Mauriello's caution, and though it wasn't apparent to the naked eye that explanation will have to suffice for there's no other way of knowing how Joe was tagged with a "sucker-punch" in that next hectic second. Mauriello, still a comfortable distance from Louis, suddenly drew his right hand back and leaped forward with a long overhand punch that, though quite speedy, could still be spotted a country mile away. It caught the champ too high on the left side of his face to really stun him, but there was still enough sting behind it to lift his right leg off the floor, twist his body sideways and send him reeling backwards half the length of the ring into the ropes. From the moment Louis started his reverse spin toward the hempen, with his hands frozen in mid-air seemingly trying to balance himself, the 38,494 Stadium sitters jumped up in unbelieving hysteria. Tami, nervousness gone and now only sensing what he thought would be "the kill," tore into follow up his advantage. And then came the expected, but what still remains the wierdest sight of all. Joe Louis, angered and deadly serious, walking off the ropes and back into the charging Bronxite before him. And while Tami was still trying to wind up with another right, Louis had already stepped inside his foe's guard, both hands blazing to the body and head, and just three short punches later, the last one a four-inch left hook to the chin, and Mauriello was crumbling backwards and down into the resin.

At the nine-count Tami arose, his face sagging with pain, and he tried to get away from the deadliest puncher of all time. But there was no hiding, particularly for the leaden-footed Tami. A short overhand right reeled Tami across the ring, and there, above our seat, Louis rammed home those short blockbusters to the body and head, too many to be counted, and then another left hook which caused Mauriello to wince and stumble his way around from the ropes. Louis never let up for a second. He punched his beaten foe clear across to the opposite corner and there he went all-out for the kill. A trifle over-eager, Joe missed a few at close range, but soon found the mark again as he fired a left to the face, a right to the belly, another right to the head and then a left hook, short and terrible, to the point of Tami's jaw. The game Bronxite careened down, his hands and head resting on the lower ring strand. And there he lay, with one knee propped under him, as Arthur Donovan counted him out at 2:09 of the first round.

Five minutes later, Tami was seated on his stool, one arm draped on the ropes and his benumbed head hanging forward, shaking from side to side.

Champ Takes Only 2:09 of First to Blast Tami

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 9-28-46

By SAM LACY

NEW YORK — Joe Louis chalked up his fifth one-round knockout here at Yankee Stadium, Wednesday night, as he successfully defended his world heavyweight championship for the 23rd time.

It took one punch by Challenger Tami Mauriello, Bronx Italian, to rouse Louis's ire, and two minutes by the huge clock in centerfield for the Bomber to loose the fury which meant equally swift dispatch for the likes of Max Schmeling, John Henry Lewis, Jack Roper and Buddy Baer.

Tami, as had been predicted on these pages previous to the fight, gambled all on one punch—and lost. He threw a long right hand at a million dollars, landed, but came up with nothing except a badly bashed left eye, a whopping headache and the thorough knowledge that you can't skin a tiger by reaching into his mouth for his tail.

For the audacity which generates the wish for a swing on the Louis chin, Tami was put away in shorter time than all his predecessors save one, Max Schmeling. The German was stopped in two minutes, four seconds, the quickest of Joe's 51 knockouts since he turned pro in 1934.

A crowd of 38,494 cash customers had hardly been seated when the Italian challenger shot an overhand right to the Bomber's head and sent him spinning into the ropes directly over the radio broadcasters.

It was no push, it was a solid blow that landed high on the champ's head. But, from this point of vantage it appeared to be more of a surprise to Joe than anything else.

Champ Unhurt

Contrary to what others might think or say, it did not seem that Louis was in any wise in distress. Although he pitched toward the ropes, neither his legs appeared rubbery nor did his eyes take on the glassy crust that is to be detected in a fighter who is hurt.

Mauriello learned this much a few seconds later. Thinking he was on the threshhold of victory, that a quick follow-up would mean the lifting of the golden bauble, Tami rushed in to "finish the job."

Pandemonium broke loose as several thousand of the challenger's well-wishers from the nearby Bronx, suddenly thrown into wild frenzy, pleaded with their pride to "get him, get him!"

Mauriello Brought Up

But a scorching right, thrown from inches away, tore into Mauriello's eye and brought him up short. In less time than it takes to tell, Louis shot over a left hook and Tami's knees sagged perceptibly. He reached out with gloves open, as though trying to hold himself up by grabbing the air, and Joe ripped a left to the head. *The Afro-American*

Down went Mauriello. Down went the hopes of his Bronx followers. Into a neutral corner, Louis was escorted by Referee Arthur Donovan.

"Five, six, seven, eight," the referee, back over Tami, picked up the knockdown timekeeper's count. *Baltimore, Md.*

Mauriello rose, but he was not the same fighter. Displaying a desire to run, but the inability to do so, Tami tossed another right at Joe's head, obviously in desperation. *Sat. 9-28-46*

Recovers Quickly

Again the shock threw Louis off balance, and again he recovered quickly.

He stalked his foe into the same corner over the radio equipment and shot a left jab to the head, a right to the body and then proceeded to use both hands alternately in an effort to bring Mauriello out of his suddenly-adopted crouch.

Without taking another punch, the champion chopped a right to the head and then crashed a left hook on the jaw of his sinking adversary.

Fight Gone

Tami, utterly bewildered and devoid of any further desire to fight, listened to the toll with his right hand grasping the upper strand of the ropes, and his left hand holding his head.

Louis greeted his mother in the post-fight radio talk. He also said "Hello," to John Roxborough, "my manager." The champ declared he may fight again "if I'm as lucky as I was tonight."

Mauriello's only cryptic comment was: "I got too damned careless."

Mauriello was the first in the ring, wearing a bright red robe. Louis followed two minutes later, clothed in two robes as has been his custom on chilly nights. Joe also had his head covered with a white towel.

Arthur Donovan was assigned the refereeing task, marking the first time he has officiated in a Louis bout since the pre-war days. Judges were Frank Forbes and Marty Monroe.

With Louis in his corner were Mannie Seamon, his trainer; Larry Amidee and George Nicholson; while Lefty Remini, manager, and Al Sylvani, trainer, worked with Mauriello.

Harry Balough's introductions drew big applause for both fighters, Louis getting the loudest, but with Tami getting an especially noisy welcome from his Bronx rooters.

Blow by Blow

Tami led with a hard right to Joe's jaw and staggered Louis to the ropes. Tami followed closely, but Louis recovered and waded in with rights and lefts, sending Tami to the canvas for an eight count.

Tami bulled into Joe with everything he had; but Louis retaliated with a hard right. The two exchanged blows in the corner. Louis tried hard to stop Tami with a right, but missed.

The champion was right on top of the struggling Mauriello and caught him near the neutral corner, plastering him with rights and a terrific left hook, which sent Tami down on his right knee—where Tami was counted out.

The fight lasted two minutes and nine seconds.

Louis wins by a knockout!

DIVISION OF

63c 1946

Joe Louis (Mauriello-- Results)

Louis Wins in First; Tami Jars Joe Once

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga. Fri 9-20-46

By DAVID J. WALSH

YANKEE STADIUM, NEW YORK, Sept. 19—(INS)—Quite in accordance with rule and rote, Joe Louis, retained his world heavyweight championship Wednesday night in the second defense of the title this year.

He won in many respects his most spectacular victory with a first round knockout of Tami Mauriello, Bronx heavyweight who was bludgeoned to the floor with 51 seconds of the first round still remaining.

But, before he passed out on the party, this disdained 10-to-1 shot in the betting sent the crowd of 30,000 into a panic with a near knockout of Louis—and on practically the first punch of the fight.

It was a wild-swinging right which followed close upon a left lead, with the former landing on the crown of Lewis' slightly balding head and almost up-ending him then and there.

For a dramatic moment the champion seemed almost suspended by an unseen wire as he wavered, transfixed, in his tracks.

Then in a gangling precipitate sprawl, he went careening all the way from mid-ring into the ropes facing the third base line.

So violent was this rearward plunge, it seemed remarkable that Louis didn't go down with the blow.

But upon hitting the ropes, he recovered a measure of poise and strength—and as the rabid Tami, scenting a great victory in the offing, rushed in for the finisher, Joe was ready.

Even as Mauriello was scoring with a left and right, Louis was uncorking the counter that changed the course of a tremendously dramatic round.

Mauriello, an awkward, bandy-legged black-thatched specimen with a strangely emotionless eye, even sought to nail Louis before the inevitable "beheader" caught him in a vital spot. But Joe wasn't fooling now. Not after that first surprise punch.

He was fooling so little, in fact, that he gave the most workmanlike exhibition of his career in finishing the tough Italian. First he sent him reeling against the ropes again with a right.

Then, staying on top of his victim, Joe brought a tremendous overhand right down on the other's chin. It was a down-right bash—the kind detective fiction likes to refer to as effected by a heavy, blunt instrument.

Tami's eyes switched in all directions under the impact, but he stayed braced against the floor with outthrust feet, with the ropes at his back. *Fri. 9-20-46*

With that, Joe switched down below, heaved a homeric right uppercut to the body; then without waiting, crossed the punch to the chin. Another right cross followed—and so did Tami Mauriello, to the floor on hands and knees.

He made no effort to alter that posture as the count tolled remorselessly forward to 10.

After the knockout, a radio announcer climbed into the ring with a microphone to interview the fighters. The still groggy Mauriello said:

"Joe Louis is a great champion."

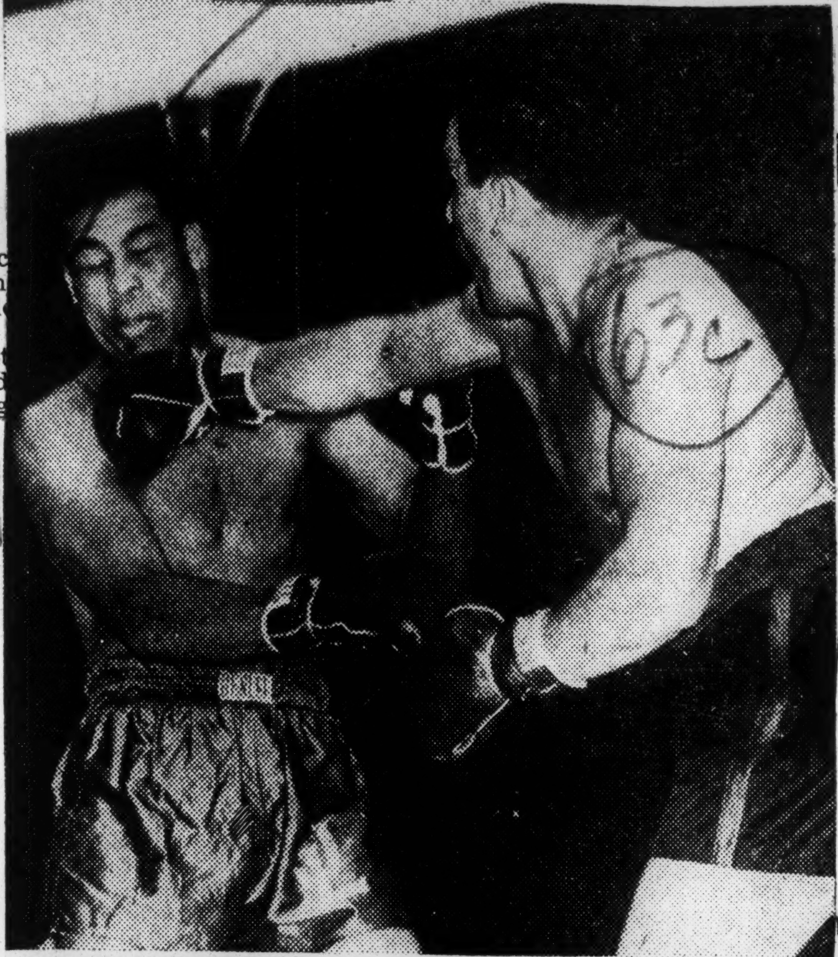
Then the announcer asked Tami if he thought he had Louis when he landed a hard right shortly after the fight began.

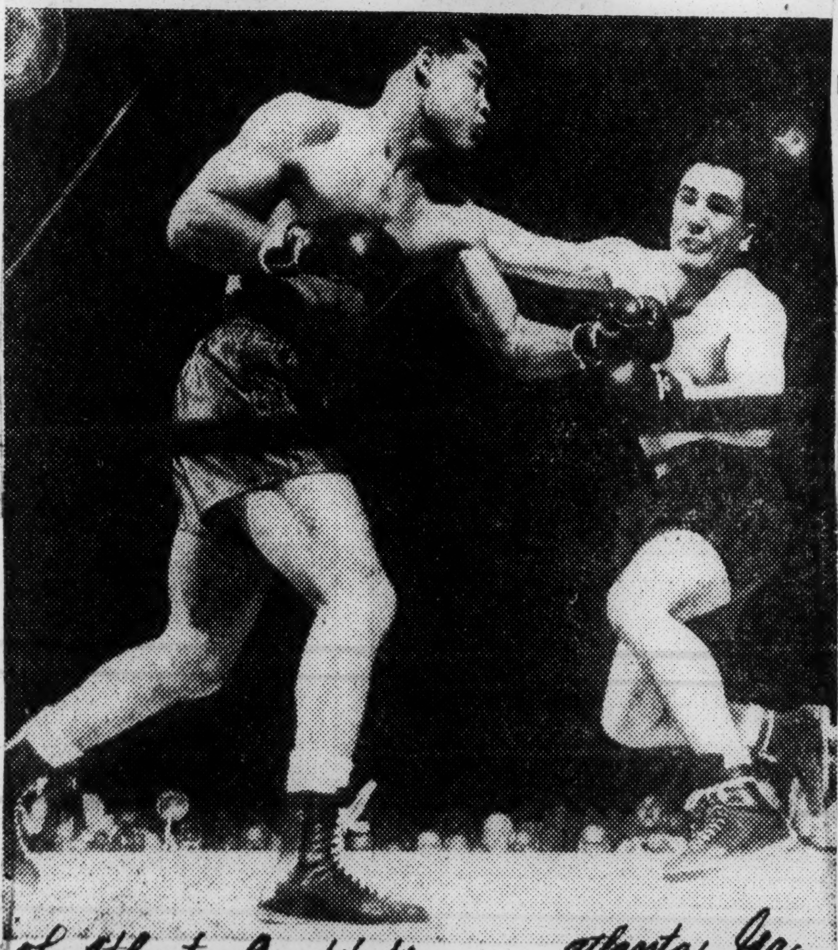
"Yeah, I thought I was going to knock him out," Mauriello replied. "Then I just got too G—— d——d careless."

TAMI, HEP, ROCKS; JOE, CALM, SOCKS

NEW YORK, Sept. 19—(AP) An hour before he entered the ring against Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, Challenger Tami Mauriello was singing and dancing in his dressing room to a song entitled "When You Sock Them You Rock Them." The music was supplied by two friends who played mouth organs.

Mauriello raised such a racket that the handlers of Champion Joe, just a few doors away, sent word by a deputy boxing commissioner to "please be quiet; Louis is sleeping."





The Atlanta Constitution *Atlanta, Ga.*

Associated Press Wirephoto

THE BEGINNING AND THE END—Tami Mauriello, top photo, staggered Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis with a hard right just after the start of the first round of their title fight in Madison Square Garden Wednesday night, but it only succeeded in making the champ mad enough to finish the tussle seconds later. Joe's power is adequately illustrated in bottom photo, which shows Mauriello being lifted from his feet by a left hook. Louis knocked the challenger out in two minutes, nine seconds of the opening round. *Fri. 9-20-46*

'Still Champ With Me, Tami'

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Fri. 9-20-46

There was pathetic bedlam in the Mauriello dressing room 10 minutes after the game kid had gone to defeat before ringdom's deadliest counter-puncher. Photogs were standing on chairs and tables screaming for Tami to look into the camera, reporters were pushed up against one another 20-deep, each straining to get in a question at the puffy-faced, dark-haired kid on the rubbing table. "Did he hurt you? Did you think you had him with that right, Tami? Did you know what the count was on the second knockdown?"

And to it all, Tami, heart-broken and head down, just mumbled "yeah, yeah," or most of the time nothing at all. His brother Alf wrapped his arms around the beaten battler and kept trying to comfort him. "It's all right, kid, it's all right. You're still champ with me, Tami, it's all right."

But nothing seemed right to Tami. And as his brothers screamed at the cops to get everyone out of the room, Tami just held his head between his big hands and cried.

* * *

Several doors down the hall, movie men and photogs and scribes were vieing with each other for a photo or a word with the champ.

"Look up here, champ, now smile, give us a smile, Joe." And Joe would look up and smile.

Then the movie men took over while the reporters were asked to query Joe loud enough to be picked up in the small hand microphone one of the newsreel men was holding.

"You were pretty mad there Joe, weren't you?"

"I wasn't angry at Tami—just mad because I started too slow and let him hit me."

"Which was the punch that knocked him out?"

"There were so many of them I really don't know. I'll have to see the moving pictures to find out." *Fri. 9-20-46*

The movie men had enough by then, and Joe excused himself to take a shower. When he returned a few minutes later, his handlers rubbed him down with alcohol and reporters fired another round of questions. Each he answered pa-

63c 1946 Bob Montgomery

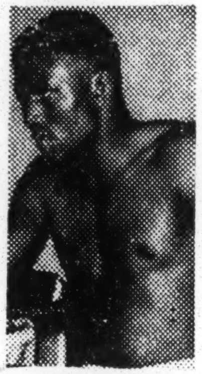
Bobcat Kayos Young Mouzon

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Montgomery Flattens Foe In 8th Stanza

(63a)

PHILADELPHIA — (Special) — A lightning lefthook sent Wesley Mouzon, youthful Philadelphia Negro fighter, to the canvas in the eighth round after 2 minutes and 18 seconds of fighting and ended what was scheduled to be a 15-round world lightweight title scrap here in Convention Hall on Tuesday night, Nov. 26.



Montgomery

The blow also repaid Mouzon for knocking out Montgomery a few months ago in a non-title bout. Montgomery is recognized as world lightweight champion in New York and Pennsylvania.

A crowd of 12,416, a bit less than Promoter Taylor's expected 15,000, saw the fight. Mouzon weighed 132¾, Montgomery, 135.

* * * Sat. 12-7-46

THE BOBCAT took nearly four rounds to solve Mouzon's style, the latter taking the first three stanzas. In the fourth, Montgomery got Mouzon in a neutral corner and let go a right hand wallop which found its mark.

After fighting at close quarters in the fifth, the Bobcat had Mouzon wabbly at the bell.

The sixth was all Montgomery's. He got by Mouzon's left and with his long right-handed blows kept Wesley at a distance. Two hard rights sent Mouzon's head back.

Mouzon was a heavy favorite to beat the champion because of his kayo victory over Montgomery.

63c 1946

Bobcat Bob Bounces Back

P.M.

3-7-46

When Bobcat Bob Montgomery, the lightweight champ, slides his tawny torso through the ropes in the Garden tomorrow, take a gander at his gams: "I finally got the GI outta them," he explains.

Now this Montgomery who won, lost and re-won the title in his first three fights with Beau Jack back in the early days of the war always has been on the lank side, and with those guys it's the legs that give 'em the merry nedso.

He hasn't been seen around here since that War Bond fight which raised $36,000,000 with Beau Jack, a fight he lost in August, '44, and a fight which both fighters—then in the Army—donated.

We have seen BJ come back to three main events since his Army discharge, and the last one looked like he was rushing things too much. In fact, he looked drawn too fine. But we'll never see Monty vs. Beau again because BJ is now a full-blown welter, and Monty, at 140, says he'll always campaign in the lightweight division, where he'll have little trouble making weight.

Montgomery was out of service ahead of BJ and has fought two tens in the last several months, winning them both (Parsons and Rodak), but not feeling his old self in either.

3-7-46

And, also with the edge on Jack, he fought several times while in service, winning three, losing once.

Montgomery's matched tomorrow with Tony Pellone, the Greenwich Village spoiler, who has a good left, a fast right uppercut. You may remember Monty's weakness against a left if you were there the night Bummy Davis chilled him in 63 seconds. New York, N.Y.

I'm not trying to build up Pellone, because the Garden sells out to fans these days who don't even ask who's fighting until they sit down. But because Montgomery is champ and he's working his way to title defense, he should be spotlighted. Thrusday

He was always a crouch fighter who could work well inside and, if he had to, could stand off and sharp-shoot, too.

Pellone is definitely Montgomery's toughest test and Bob's showing will do a lot to point up his chances when he finally risks his title against the NBA champ, whoever he may be at the time. Don't mention Ike Williams because that March date is out and Williams defends on the Coast and the guy he meets may be it by the time we get Montgomery paired here this Summer. Williams hasn't been the same since Monty himself draped him on the apron of the ring in Philly a couple of years ago.

You don't have to be told that with all athletes—save the chess champs—it's the legs that carry the load and the part of the body that goes first. Monty was rocky in his last two 10s, but in the last several weeks, he says, the old rubber is back again.

It should be a good fight. And certainly it'll be nice to see a champ for a change. —JOE CUMMISKEY

Nice Work If You Get It . . .

P.M.

New York, N.Y.

Herewith an interim report on recent operations and Operation Monty, as the catchline has it these days, smells from gorgonzola if ya ast me—and even if ya don't.

3-11-46

I refer to Bobcat Bob Montgomery, who, at $12 tops, did nothing but work himself a little closer to being in shape while the public poured more than 50 gran' into the BO. Monday The Philly lightweight champ admitted himself that he needs a "coupla more" fights like that one against Pellone the other night to reach the peak necessary to make title defense feasible.

The Bobcat missed the green kid from the Villitch as often as you miss the daily double and looked very bad at long range. It was a lucky thing for Monty that Allie Stolz had a cracked hand and couldn't fight him and he'd better be much better when he does put his title on the line against Stolz May 17. 3-11-46

Bob Montgomery Outpoints Pellone

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK. (NNPA).—Bob Montgomery, lightweight champion in New York and Pennsylvania, chopped out a 10-round decision over Tony Pellone, New

Bob Montgomery

York youngster, in the Madison Square Garden windup, here Friday. 3-16-46

Monty started in low gear, feeling out his younger and heavier rival for two rounds here until he found the tenderest spot—Pellone's midsection.

Shifting into high in the third, Montgomery whammed with both hands to the body in a steady tattoo, rattling knuckles off Pellone's ribs with such persistence, the New Yorker was wincing with pain and lifting his legs aloft with the blows to the stomach and kidneys. This fare so upset Tony that he dropped to the canvas in the ninth round from sheer exhaustion.

Montgomery Hurdles Weak Foe in Allie

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Stolz to Retain Coveted Title Baubble

Bobcat Bob Scores in 13th

Sat. 7-6-46

NEW YORK—Hammering away with flailing fists at a stubborn little foe who refused to stay down for keeps, Bob Montgomery retained his lightweight championship, New York-Pennsylvania version, at the Garden last Friday night when he finally caught up with Allie Stolz, Newark hope, and rocked him to sleep in 2:54 of the 13th round.

A hard right to the jaw did the trick, the same potent weapon Bob used on Allie in spilling him for five previous knockdowns; for a two-count in the seconds, for seven in the 5th; six and two in the 11th, and eight in the twelfth.

Monty was in rare form and hit his opponent with everything but the proverbial "kitchen-sink." In the in-fighting, he was particularly the master all the way and Stolz did his darndest to hold the Bobcat off at long range so he could peck away at his skull with a very weak left.

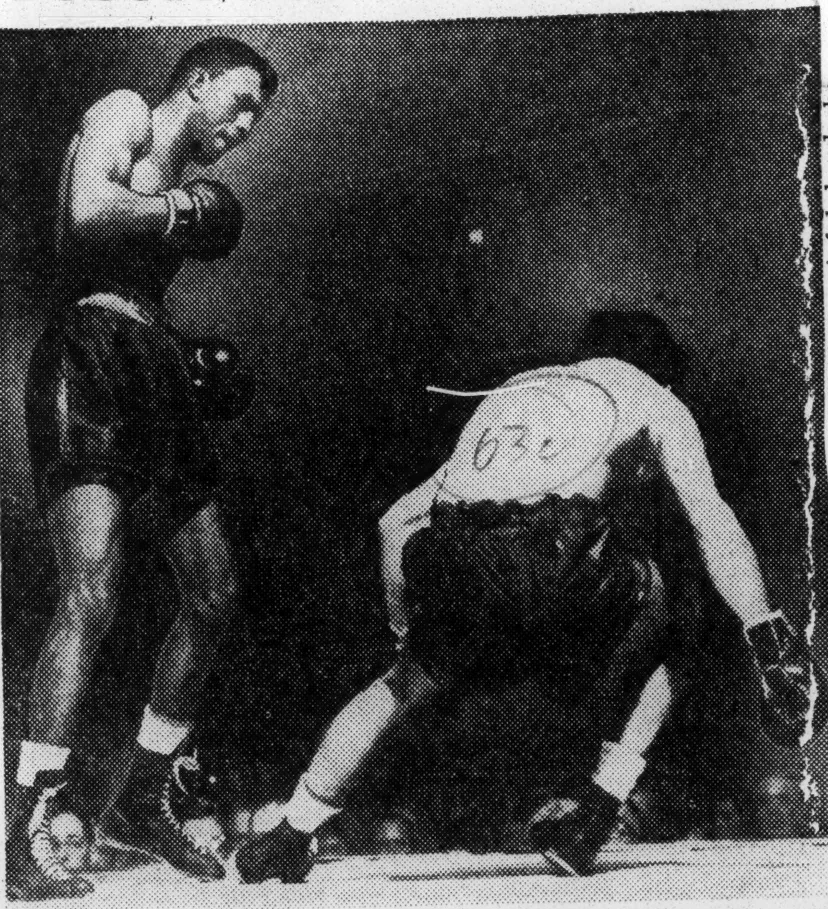
Stole Crowd's Favorite

Stolz did some fancy boxing in the first round, but from then on Montgomery took over. As usual, Stolz, the underdog in the betting, was the crowd's favorite, but that didn't help him one bit.

During the entire fight, the only question seemed to be how long Allie could last as he continued to absorb the terrific punishment Monty dished out to the body and head.

At times, Allie looked good as he stood off and hooked his left to Bob's face. This was his only weapon of defense; and defense it was, since Monty was the aggressor throughout.

Every time Stolz went down, it appeared he couldn't get up. Somehow, he managed to get up and continue a losing battle. His face bloody and swollen, and his body a deep red from Monty's blows, Allie came out for the 13th and final round a doomed fighter.



Challenger Allie Stoltz of Newark, N.J., crumples to the floor in the 13th round after taking a right to the chin from Lightweight Champion Bob Montgomery of Philadelphia in Madison Square Garden last Friday night. Montgomery retained his title.

He could hardly lift his hands.

Hard Right Does Trick

Bob pursued him, smashing looping rights to his head until the haymaker caught him flush on the jaw in the closing seconds of the round and spilled him on his back almost outside the ropes. He gamely tried to get up again, but this was the end. His seconds helped carry him to his corner.

The champion outpunched his opponent at least six to one in every round but the first.

On our scoresheet, the AFRO gave Bob every round but the first and the sixth. Stolz took the initial round by superior boxing, and also the sixth which was awarded to him on low blows.

Out on His Feet

In the fourth, Stolz came out of a clinch, during which Bob pounded his mid-section furiously, dazed and completely turned around; and referee Ruby Goldstein had to swing him around to face Monty again.

All through the fight Allie made no effort to punch his opponent during the in-fighting, while Bob used these chances to advantage.

At the end of the 10th, Monty again caught Stolz with a long left to the face that made his knees buckle just as the bell rang.

10,872 Fans See Fight

Stolz's handlers worked furiously on him between rounds. As early as the third round, he knew he couldn't beat Monty and his plans evidently were to try and box him and last the route. However, the Bobcat wouldn't have it this way.

A crowd of 10,872 paid $61,994 to see the fight. There were plenty of empty seats around, which fact must have given Uncle Mike Jacobs a painful headache. Judges were Marty Monroe and Joe Agnello.

BOB MONTGOMERY HALTED BY MOUZON

Times
New York, New York

Knocked Out in 2d Round of Non-Title Bout Staged in Rain at Philadelphia

Tues 8-20-46

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 19 (UP)—Wesley Mouzon, 137, Philadelphia, knocked out Bob Montgomery, lightweight champion, in the second round of their scheduled 12-round non-title bout tonight.

Montgomery was counted out in 1:49 of the second round after the bout had been moved up more than one hour ahead of time because of a blinding rainstorm.

Mouzon, who is managed by Montgomery's brother, Tom, set up the champion for the kill with a right hand to the chin after he had outboxed Bobcat Bob by a wide margin in the first round. Montgomery landed only one solid punch during the opening session.

The tall, skinny 19-year-old Mouzen flipped a short right to the chin shortly after the second opened. Montgomery, who was in a crouch, staggered back to the far ropes.

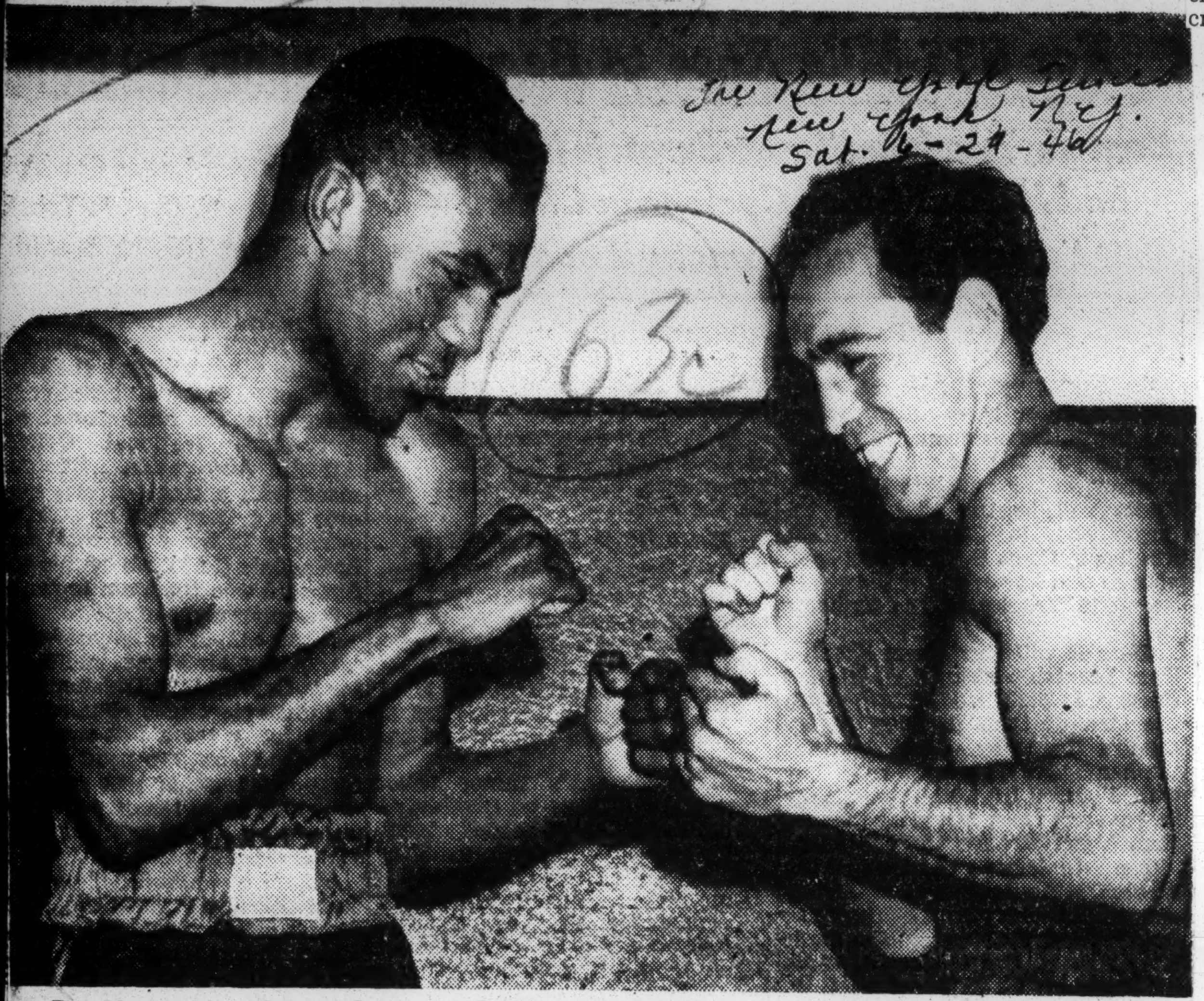
Mouzon, a 2-to-1 underdog, went after the title-holder and fired a series of rights and lefts to the chin and body. He pecked and hammered with Montgomery standing erect and taking the beating.

The youngster measured Bob and landed a hard right, and then moved in for the kill. Mouzon fired another series of punches as Montgomery stood erect. Then Bob toppled across the middle strand of thee ring ropes and slumped to the floor. He tried vainly to get up at the count of eight, but sagged back as the count went to ten. Tues 8-20-46

Mouzon, who has been fighting professionally about two years, reached his peak with his victory over the 27-year holder of the New York version of the lightweight title. Previously, his best fight was a draw with Ike Williams, N. B. A. champion.

LIGHTWEIGHTS AFTER WEIGHING IN FOR TITLE BOUT

The New York Times New York N.Y. Sat. 6-29-46



Bob Montgomery (left) and Allie Stolz square off in the State Athletic Commission's headquarters.

BOB MONTGOMERY KNOCKS OUT STOLZ

The New York Times

Keeps Lightweight Title by Halting Newark Boxer in 13th Round in Garden

New York N.Y.

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Bob Montgomery, recognized by the New York State Boxing Commission as the lightweight champion, knocked out Allie Stolz, Newark challenger, in a scheduled fifteen-round title match at Madison Square Garden last night.

The bout ended in the thirteenth round.

Montgomery weighed 134¾ pounds and Stoltz 132½ pounds. A crowd of about 9,000 was present.

The referee was Ruby Goldstein. The judges were Marty Monroe and Joe Agnello. Sat. 6. 29-46

Opening the battle with a long left hook to the head, Stolz had things his own way through the first round. He peppered Montgomery with left jabs and twice crossed his right to Montgomery's jaw. Montgomery sought to get close to pound the body, but Stolz kept the action at long range through most of the round and in the clinches he locked Montgomery's arms against attack.

Montgomery pressed the fighting through the third round, trading left jabs with Stoltz and punishnng Allie severely about the body with solid right and left-hand smashes. Stolz' right eye was swelling under Montgomery's left jabs, and the challenger was forced to a strictly defensive fight.

For the first minute of the fourth round Stolz fought furiously, whipping lefts and rights to the face and digging solid lefts to the body as he evaded many of Montgomery's counter punches. In the last two minutes of the round, however, Montgomery fired both hands to the body and weakened Stolz noticeably. The challenger sought to clinch but only exposed himself to more punishing body fire and was ttired at the bell.

Short of Ability

Short of some of the flashy boxing ability he exhibited in their first clash a few weeks ago, Tomas Aquino Beato, Dominican Republic featherweight, went down to defeat before Joe Ianotti, Bridgeport, Conn., in the eight-round semi-final. Sat. 6.29-46

Winning the decision in a hard-fought but ordinary battle, Iannotti avenged a defeat he suffered in the first bout between these rivals. The Connecticut battler won because he pressed close and out-punched his rival.

Beato held consistently in the fighting at close range and was unable to work effectively at long range after absorbing a few rounds of Iannotti's savage body fire. Iannotti weighed 129½ pounds and Beato 122.

Despite the handicap of a bruised and swollen right eye, Lou Casiano, sturdy Bronx lightweight, fought his way to the decision over Jackie Floyd, rugged Philadelphian, in their six-round bout.

It was a sizzling, head-to-head, punching bee from first bell to last. Through most of the slugging Casiano outpunched his foe, and the Bronx lad closed with a rush that had Floyd fighting exclusively on the defensive through a torrid sixth and last round. Casiano weighed 131 pounds and Floyd 129½.

Paddy DeMarco, Brooklyn lightweight, received the decision over Donald Murray, Bronx, in their four-round bout. DeMarco weighed 136 pounds and Murray 135¾.

Morris Belkin, East Side lightweight, fought his way to the decision over Enrique Vertiz, Mexican, in the opening bout of four rounds. Belkin weighed 129½ pounds and Vertiz 131½. Sat. 6-29-46

Takes Count of Two

The second round was not ten seconds old before Montgomery dropped Stolz with a right to the jaw. Stolz regained his feet at the count of two to run into a heavy fire of rights and lefts to the body and head as Montgomery fought to press his advantage. For most of the round Montgomery rushed in against Stolz's jabs and punished the challenger with wicked lefts and rights to the body. Near the end of the round Montgomery cracked a solid right to the head.

Bob Montgomery Knocks Out Stoltz, Keeps World Title

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 7-6-46

By MAJOR ROBINSON

NEW YORK—Fighting like the battler of pre-war days, Bob Montgomery successfully defended his lightweight crown Friday night, June 28, in Madison Square Garden by knocking out challenger Allie Stoltz in 2:54 of the 13th round.

His first title bout (New York-Pennsylvania version) since being released from the army last December, the Bobcat displayed the stamina and punching ability that won him the crown from Beau Jack in 1943. The 10,872 spectators who paid $61,994 to witness this scheduled 15-round affair were given the best lightweight battle seen in the Garden in the last ten years.

• • •

ALTHOUGH GAME FROM the start, the Newark challenger was no match for Montgomery's devastating body punching blows and right crosses, which put him on the canvas six times before Referee Goldstein finally waved his hands signalling the end had come for him. Later in his dressing room Montgomery said that he had never fought anyone with "the heart and spunk to keep getting up off the floor as Stoltz."

Still a little off his usual excellent timing in throwing his punches, the champ's manager, Joe Gramby, said that he would freeze the title for the next six months and would engage in a once-a-month non-title bout. Tentatively in the making is a match with Beau Jack to be waged in Philly's Shibe Park the middle of August.

Montgomery weighed 134¾, Stoltz, 132½.

managed by Joe Gramby, won 23 straight, 17 by knockouts before he was held to a draw by George Zengaras, white, 10 rounds at the Arena.

Montgomery lost for the first time in his 34th start to Tommy Speigel, white, in Philadelphia, Bob at the time being recognized as Pennsylvania's lightweight champion and losing the Keystone State title on a questionable 10-round decision.

Wins Crown

He won the world's lightweight title on a 15-round decision from Beau Jack at New York, May 21, 1943, lost it back to the Beau, 15 rounds, Nov. 19, the same year, and was re-crowned Mar. 3, 1944, on a 15-round decision over Jack.

Montgomery went into the service, in the U.S. Air Corps in August, 1944, and since his honorable discharge, November, 1945, he won seven bouts, two by KO's, Ernie Petrone, 6, and Allie Stolz, 13, both white.

Halted by Mouzon

When he was knocked out by Wesley Mouzon in the second round at Shibe Park Aug. 19, it was the second time Montgomery had been stopped. Bummy Davis, white, knocked out Monty in the first round at the New York Garden, Feb. 18, 1944, three weeks before he won back the lightweight title from Beau Jack.

In all, Montgomery has engaged in 91 bouts, losing nine times including two by the KO route.

He is managed by Joe Gramby and trained by Dick Kain.

Less Money, More Fight

The Time New York, N.Y.

Like pease porridge in the pot, the Louis-Conn $100-a-seat fiasco was nine days old. As though his cold porridge had been piping hot, Promoter Mike Jacobs last week dished up another serving: another of his unbeatable Negro champions, Lightweight Bob Montgomery, defending his crown for the first time since 1944. This time Mike priced his ringside seats at a quiet $17. The fans stayed away and missed a real fight. 7-8-46

Spindle-legged Champion Black Bob threw everything but the gate receipts at Challenger Allie Stolz, floored him five times. But unlike Billy Conn, Challenger Stolz was game. He was finally knocked out in the 13th round, got a big hand in half-filled Madison Square Garden for staying as long as he did.

Bob Montgomery Beats Larover

Amsterdam News New York New York

WEST SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (NNPA)—Bob Montgomery, of Philadelphia, recognized lightweight champion in New York State, won an unpopular decision over George Larover, also of Philadelphia, here last Monday night. The victory was Montgomery's sixth straight since his discharge from the Army. Sat. 8-10-46

Larover took the first two rounds of the rugged contest by wide margins and rocked Montgomery with looping right hand punches to the head.

But the titleholder took the lead in the third when he staggered Larover with a right cross and remained the aggressor for the remainder of the bout. From the third round on Montgomery landed repeatedly with stinging left hooks and held the edge in the bruising infighting.

Monty Took 82, Lost 9

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 10-19-46

PHILADELPHIA

Bob Montgomery, born Feb. 10, 1919, started boxing as an amateur in Philadelphia in 1937. He engaged in 24 bouts, losing only two.

Starting as a pro in 1938, Montgomery, known as the Bobcat a.

Newsweek, New York, N.Y. 9-9-46

International

Elmer (Violent) Ray throws a violent left fist at Lee Savold

tomers had a look at Violent Ray. He wasn't big—5 feet 10 and 193 pounds. But his shoulders were as wide as the Brooklyn dugout, and his punches—right or left—had the authority of a Dixie Walker home run. His opponent was Lee Savold, a heavyweight trial horse. Several violent lefts exploded and then several violent rights. After four minutes and 39 seconds, Savold was out cold and Ray was the winner via his 13th straight knockout. Gene Tunney, a spectator, said: "He's ready to fight Joe Louis tomorrow."

Violent Ray is one of two dark hopes to topple champion Joe Louis from his throne. Jersey Joe Walcott (NEWSWEEK, March 11) is the other. But at Camden, N. J., Walcott's home town, Jersey Joe lost a ten-round decision to Joey Maxim of Cleveland. Walcott's alibi: a broken hand in the second round.

Canebrake King: For three years, the Violent Ray has been a road-company Joe Louis. Out of town (i.e. New York), he has been knocking down opponents like tenpins. Hardly anyone recognized the names of the fighters he KO'd, but a record of 38 knockouts in 43 fights (all wins), was impressive. Newsweek

Born in Hastings, Fla., Ray wrestled alligators and survived battles royal in clubs and ball parks in the south before he turned professional in 1937. His early record is terrible. He has been knocked out by John Henry Lewis, Jersey Joe Walcott, and one Turkey Thompson. It was after his turkey with Thompson that Ray suddenly found he could pulverize opponents, won the nickname of "Violent," and became the Knockout King of the Canebrakes. New York, N.Y.

Ray's age is a mystery. He claims he's 29, but Mat Fleischer, ring historian, says he's 36. "Thirty-six or 29," asks his manager Tommy O'Loughlin of Minneapolis, "what does it matter as long as you're healthy?" Manager O'Loughlin also charges that the high-ranking heavies are afraid to meet Ray. 9-9-46

At Ebbets Field last week, 14,900 cus-

Nov. 11-13-46

That would be Elmer Ray, the 29 year old Negro socker from Hastings, Florida who has a record of 47 consecutive wins over the past three years, 42 of them KO's. The last of those was a two round blitz of sturdy Lee Savold. Elmer is working out for Friday night's Garden bout with Jersey Joe Wolcott.

Faster on his feet than the great champ, Elmer carries dynamite of the Louis grade. Not quite the hand speed or accuracy of the champ, possibly not the ability to take a punch as well. But there are those, including Elmer himself, who say he's ready to dethrone Louis now.

You can take that with a grain of salt, as we do, but the man can hit like thunder—and SOMEBODY is going to be the next heavyweight champ when Joe hangs 'em up.

Ray Has Stopped 14

The Afro-American

POMPTON LAKES, N.J.—Elmer (Violent) Ray, who once made his living wrestling crocodiles in his native Florida, has knocked out 14 opponents thus far this year, with none of his victims going more than seven heats. Sat. 11-16-46

Completing his training here for his Friday night Madison Square Garden battle with Jersey Joe Walcott, Ray looks back on a remarkable record. Baltimore, Md.

During 1946, he stopped: Dan Merritt, 4 rounds, Dave Patterson, 3 rounds, Hubert Hood, 4 rounds and Dixie Oliver, 3 rounds, all in Miami, Fla.; Colion Chaney, 1 round, Balto.; Art McAlpine, 7 rounds, Springfield; Verne Escoe, 3 rounds, Balto.; Earl Lowman, 3 rounds, Springfield; George Fitch, 4 rounds, Springfield; Larry Lane, 3 rounds, Pittsburgh; Lee Savold, 2 ounrds, Brooklyn; Earl Lowman, 2 rounds, St. Paul; George Parks, 3 rounds, Chicago, and Cliff Mann, 2 rounds, Holyoke, Mass.

Elmer Ray Decisions Walcott

The Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky. Sat. 11-16-46

New York, Nov. 15 (U.P.)—Elmer "Violent" Ray, Minneapolis Negro, became the No. 1 heavyweight challenger by winning an upset, split 10-round decision over Jersey Joe Walcott before a crowd estimated at 18,000 in Madison Square Garden tonight.

Ray won this important contender's brawl by the narrow margin of one point. It would have been a draw had not Judge Joe Agnello, who voted five rounds for each, broken his tie by giving the fight to Ray on points—nine to eight.

Referee Johnny Burns voted five rounds for Ray, four for Walcott and one even. Judge Frank Forbes voted five rounds for Walcott, four for Ray and one even. The United Press scored five rounds for each.

THE NEXT CHAMPION?

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

While Joe Louis sparred before 10,000 paying customers in Honolulu Monday night, the heavyweight many fight followers think is slated to ultimately replace him sparred before about 100 customers at Pompton Lakes, New Jersey. 11-?

Elmer Ray Gets 44th KO in Beating Savold

The Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. Sat. 9-7-46

Largest Crowd in 20 Years Sees Louis Challenger in Ebbets Field Score

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—Elmer Ray, knockout artist from Hastings, Fla., further justified his claims to matching with the upper-bracket heavyweights by registering his 44th consecutive kayo at the expense of Lee Savold here at Ebbets Field, Wednesday night.

Ray stopped the Paterson, N.J., veteran in two rounds to the delight of 14,953 customers, the largest crowd to view a bout at Ebbets Field since Harry Wills and Jack Sharkey battled here two decades ago.

It was Ray's first featured appearance in the New York area and the gate grossed $35,953.

Savold Down Twice

Savold was floored in the early moments of the second but regained his feet only to go out at 1:39 of the round.

The New Jerseyan opened the first heat with a flurry, stepping fast and lively around the easy-going Ray. The latter, fighting with no lost motion whatsoever, stalked his foe until he succeeded in boxing him in a neutral corner.

Two lightning-like lefts caught Savold and slowed him to a walk. He had not fully recovered from the blows when he resumed his second round stand. The result was that Ray dropped him with a left to the head the first time and then, after sinking a left into the body, threw a right cross that hung flush on the Savold chin.

Pinch Hitter

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

By Lester Rodney

HOW GOOD is Elmer Ray, the Negro heavyweight who left sturdy Lee Savold flat on his face in the resin of the Ebbets Field ring Wednesday night after one minute and 39 seconds of the second round?

When you talk about good heavyweights you've got to bring in Joe Louis. Elmer Ray is no Joe Louis. There was nothing in his four minutes of action to suggest anything like the champ's superb all-round ring generalship, his jolting, snake-like left jabs, the hand speed that leaves sports writers ten feet away arguing whether there were two or five punches in the knockout. Fri 8-30-46

But Joe Louis is Joe Louis, the greatest heavyweight of all times. If there were no Louis right now I think Ray would be headed right for the title. I think he could beat Wolcott, Baksi and Tami Mauriello, and if I've forgotten any worthy contenders, Ray could beat them too. He can punch. Man, how he can punch!

The man Ray fought, Lee Savold, is not a great heavyweight. He's 32 and he's been around. But he's a good heavyweight and nobody much has put him down the way Ray did. Mauriello, who is getting his chance at Louis because he carries a knockout punch, never put Savold down in two bruising fights.

Intense curiosity was the main motif when the bell rang to start this fight. Everybody at Ebbets Field had read about Ray knocking out 38 men in his last 43 fights, all victories, and none in New York. "Well, let's see what this guy is all about," was in the air as all the lights but the big one over the ring at second base went out and the pre-fight hum of anticipation began. They saw.

The veteran Savold came out fast, apparently hoping to catch Ray "cold" and tightened up by his big New York chance. A crunching left hook caught Ray on the mouth and a little trickle of blood appeared. Then Elmer began to punch back. With the first whistling one-two, everybody knew what was going to happen sooner or later. A high, dull flush spread over Savold's face and his eyes took on a half-startled, half-glazed look. His handlers, squatting right next to my corner seat at the press table, hissed, **"Careful, Lee, for God's sake careful."**

Full Arsenal of Punches

Shaken, Savold did the instinctive thing, crowding Ray back to the rope, staying right on top of him to gain time. That's where Ray showed the most impressive punch in his arsenal, a short, savage uppercut that bodes ill for anyone who tries to crouch and crowd him. Savold fought back hard in two flurries towards the end of the first but Ray's far sharper replies left the 206-pound Minnesota blond foggy and reeling slightly at the bell.

It didn't take long in the second. Ray was in motion now, and the reason for his record was obvious as he went to work. He's a puncher, a knockout-conscious fighter who throws for keeps every time he throws—which is often. And he's fast afoot. A quick lunging left hook with surprising power started Savold staggering back from the center of the ring and a long looping right that was partly nullified by Savold's rapid retreat still had enouh left to put him through the lower strand onto the ring apron shaking his head in dull confusion.

He jumped up at five in the manner of a fighter whose head is buzzing too hard to know the difference between five and the more restful nine, and ran into the finishing fusillade. Four more blows, including one fearful right to the body, and Savold pitched forward onto his face.

"Get up, Lee—get up, Lee," his pale trainer shouted, first imploringly, then mechanically, hopelessly. The ten count could have been 25.

Down under the stands in the Dodger dressing room Ray didn't give the usual answer to the usual question. "Yes, he hurt me some with a left hook in the first—I felt that one," he said quickly. There's nothing particularly muscular or heroic-looking in the build of the new fight sensation. You wouldn't pick him out of a crowd as a prize fighter. The former farmhand from Hastings, Fla., is 29 and has been boxing for nine years. His record before this current run of 44 straight victories was far from impressive. He was knocked out a few times and dropped some decisions. He once quit the ring in disgust for a year and had a job polishing cars. Somewhere along the long, hard, ham-and-bean road something must have jelled and this journeyman $50 a night fighter became the sure, skilled thunderous puncher who knocked out Lee Savold.

Happy Friends

There wasn't much chance to talk to Ray as jubilant friends poured in to thump him around. "I told them about you, Elmer." He was a busy handshaker for quite a while. We'll report more fully on Ray shortly after an interview.

Outside the field a large group of fans waited for the winner to emerge. Ebbets Field hasn't had many fights of recent years and the 15,000 present undoubtedly included many a new fight fan. In the stands were thousands of Brooklyn Negro fans who found the price scale a little more realistic than the $10 minimum at the Louis-Conn affair.

Fri 8-30-46

It was a lively crowd, with something of that special intimate quality of Ebbets Field carrying right over from baseball. Above all it was a Brooklyn crowd.

Just as soon as two preliminary fighters had finished their close, action-filled bout and before any announcement could be made, the spontaneous roar of "draw, draw!" advised the judges of the decision of the people. And when two rather muscle-bound if earnest heavyweights clutched each other and stumbled around harmlessly, some group in the upper tier began singing, "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" and before it hit "Keep the Home Fires Burning," almost everybody in the place had joined in community singing spirit. That's my borough.

What they came to see, of course, was Elmer Ray and they sounded as if they liked what they saw.

Ray Shoves Wolcott Out Of Louis Bout

Defender Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK — Elmer "Violent" Ray, heavyweight contender, shoved Jersey Joe Wolcott out of the picture as far as a championship scrap with Joe Louis is concerned on Friday night, Nov. 15, in Madison Square Garden.

Ray won handily from Wolcott before 17,413 who paid $97,309. Neither fighter showed the needed class to beat Louis. Sat. 11-23-46

Walcott came back in the ninth and tenth and, fighting more on instinct than anything else, managed to shade the fresher Elmer.

Good Crowd

A larger crowd than was expected turned out to witness the bout, 17,413 customers paying $97,309 for a look at Joe Louis's next likely challenger.

On what they showed Friday night, the Brown Bomber could dispose of the two men on successive nights.

In his dressing room after the fight, the beaming Ray declared "Walcott's tough. He took a lot of solid ones, but I had trouble with my left shoulder after the fourth. Otherwise, I might've put him away when I had him groggy" (in the fourth—Ed's note).

The downcast Jersey Joe stated: "I'd like another shot at him. I think I deserve it. I was hampered by that hand; look at it."

He exhibited his right hand swollen to more than half its normal size.

"I got a nasty crack—I think it was about the sixth, and the pain was pretty bad."

The victory was Ray's 48th straight, 41 of which were by kayo.

There was little to choose in the weights, Walcott tipping 191½ and Ray 191¼.

Elmer Ray 1-Point Victor Over Jersey Joe Walcott

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-23-46

NEW YORK — A straight right which landed high on the jaw in the third round proved to be the margin by which Elmer Ray, Milwaukee heavyweight, gained a split decision over Jersey Joe Walcott at Madison Square Garden, Friday night.

The blow rattled Walcott's legs and almost sent the Camden, N.J., contender to one knee, the nearest thing to a knockdown scored by either fighter through the 10 rounds of milling. And it was this punch that caused Judge Joe Agnello to vote the fight to Ray by the slim margin of one point, 9 to 8.

Referee Johnny Burns scored 5 rounds to Ray and 4 to Walcott; Judge Frank Forbes tallied 5 for Walcott, and Agnello called it 5-5, with the single-point margin to Ray.

Asked about his point-score after the bout, Agnello said, "I think Ray landed the harder punches and deserved the edge."

AFRO Picks Ray

The AFRO score-card showed the Violent One the winner, but by a safer margin. It gave Ray 5 rounds, Walcott 3, and called 2, the first and seventh, even.

Jersey Joe's best rounds were the second, ninth and tenth. In the second, he shook his adversary with two stinging left hooks, but Ray rallied and near the bell, Walcott's head was snapped back by a short right from in close.

The former crocodile-wrestler took the initiative in the third, when he clipped Walcott with the straight right and the latter almost went down. He held the upper hand through the fourth, fifth, and sixth, relinquished it in the seventh, but took over again in the eighth.

Walcott Whoozy

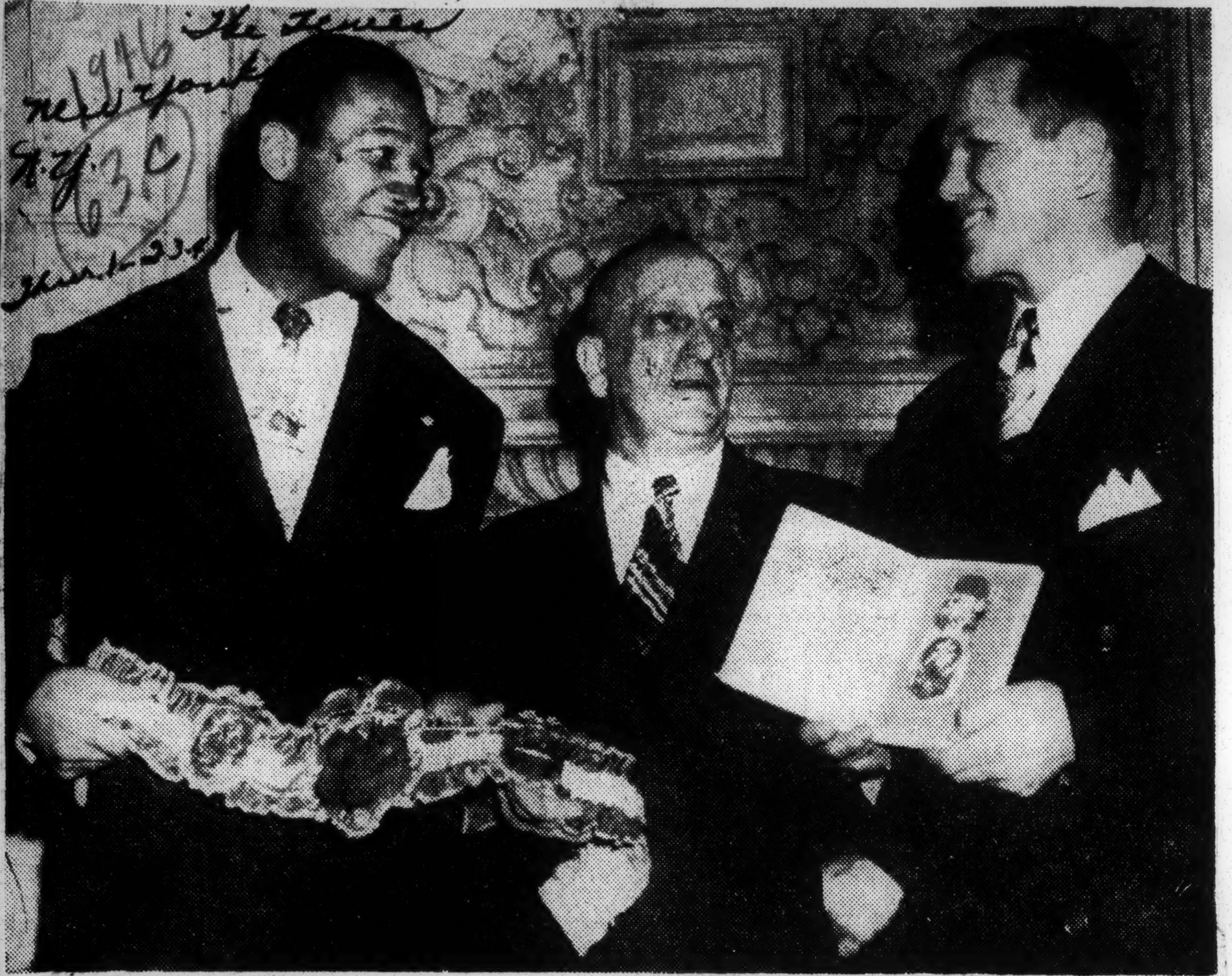
Jersey Joe was whoozy at the end of a heated exchange near the end of the fourth, and Burns had to guide him toward his corner.

It was at this point that Walcott began to look arm-weary, and the AFRO suspected that he had re-hurt the hand he injured against Joey Maxim in September. This fact, later confirmed by Jersey Joe, became more evident in the eighth when Walcott inadvertently shifted to a southpaw stance.

Sensing this handicap on the part of his foe, Ray sallied forth with lefts and rights in a bid to finish the Jerseyan. But the latter, displaying amazing durability, weathered the storm.

63c 1946 Ray "Sugar" Robinson

HONORED BY BOXING WRITERS' ASSOCIATION LAST NIGHT



Ray Robinson, holding belt emblematic of the welterweight championship; Nat Fleischer, publisher of The Ring, and Tony Zale with the Edward J. Neil Memorial Plaque. Zale also received a silver medal from Fleischer as the boxer of the year.

The New York Times

Highlight of Season

Tony Zale, a world middleweight champion, received the Edward J. Neil Memorial Plaque for outstanding service to boxing in 1946. His spectacular six-round knockout of Rocky Graziano was appraised the highlight of the 1946 season. In addition, Zale received from Publisher Nat Fleischer of The Ring, a boxing magazine, a silver medal as the boxer of the year. These presentations were made by James A. Farley, ex-Postmaster General.

President Al Buck of the B. W. A. presented the Jacobs trophy. Fleischer also presented to Ray Robinson a belt emblematic of the world welterweight title he won recently with his exciting victory over Tommy Bell in the Garden.

In the past, the Neil Plaque had been awarded to Jack Dempsey, Billy Conn, Henry Armstrong, Louis, Ross, Benny Leonard and the late James J. Walker, in that order. In 1943 the Neil award was made to all boxers in the armed service of the country. It hangs in the Garden lobby. Former Mayor Walker also was a recipient of the award for long and meritorious service to boxing. Others honored with this award were Gene Tunney, Fleischer, and the late Maj. Gen. John J. Phelan and Jimmy Johnston. New York, N.Y.

In this Corner

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Ray Will Turn In A Gem Tonite

Fri. 12-20-46

—By Bill Mardo—

DON'T BE surprised if Ray Robinson comes through with the fight of his life tonight. Surely the incentive is there for such a showing. When a man has done nothing but eat, dream and talk the welterweight title for five years of a messy runaround; when his long overdue chance arrives, and when the fighter is someone as supremely talented as Robinson, then, brethren, you can look for him to do something super by way of finally erasing that "uncrowned" blot from before his name.

Another reason to anticipate a Robinson special is the quality of his opposition. Ray knows both how to rise to the occasion and also the demands of a highly qualified foe. Tommy Bell, party of the second part for Marty Servo's vacant title, is all of a qualified ringman. He's the stringbean belter-boxer who was good enough to make middleweight Jake LaMotta know he was in a fight on two occasions. The only other welter to ever do that against the Bronx Blockbuster was none other than Robinson—who unlike Bell, didn't merely look good losing, but instead, took Jake into camp four out of five times.

And I suppose the measure of their respective performances against the best middleweight in the land, is just about the best way of measuring the difference between Ray Robinson and Tommy Bell. The man they call "Sugar" is absolutely the sweetest fighter in the world. Tommy Bell is several rungs below Ray in overall fighting brilliance—but being a few notches less of a fighter than Robinson still leaves the Ohioan very much of an all right fisticuffer. As a matter of fact, were Robinson to vacate the 147-pound crown shortly after achieving his lifelong ambition, and then campaign among the middleweights (in which division he's also the uncrowned champion so far as I'm concerned), then Tommy Bell would certainly become the next welterweight king. That's how good a man he is.

RAY RESPECTS TOMMY

Ray Robinson feels the same way about it. I remember when Ray met Tommy Bell in Cleveland two years ago. That was one of Robbie's earliest bouts after being mustered out of the army. Ray was still in the process of fighting his way back into prewar condition. So he took on Tommy and had a hell of a time handling him, too. It was fairly close and Robbie needed a fast ninth and tenth round finish to clinch the verdict. When he came back to New York, Ray told all who would listen that Mister Tommy Bell was probably the best welterweight in action, aside from himself.

This writer agreed with Robinson when he saw the Bell-LaMotta bout in the Garden last January. Tommy looked slightly terrific. He took LaMotta's best pot-shots without blinking, including a fearful body barrage to his slim midsection, and still managed to awe the crowd with his neat boxing ability, coolness and sharp right-handed socks which tilted brother Jake's well-set head back on his neck more than once.

All in all, he's quite a something, this Tommy Bell. When he's "up" for a fight, that is. Certainly a crack at the welter crown will find Tommy at his emotional and physical best tonight. And that's always a danger, as Ray Robinson is well aware of. When an underdog gets a once-in-a-lifetime chance it often happens that he outdoes himself, fights "over his head," as they say.

So chalk up another reason to see Ray Robinson at his most brilliant best tonight. He's got to be, not to risk losing his oft-postponed bid for the big bauble. How will Robinson map his strategy? My hunch is he'll try to score a quick knockout for two reasons. One, Tommy Bell's never been kayoed before; two, Ray respects Bell's punch and would certainly prefer getting through with his chores quickly rather than go the distance and risk getting seriously tagged once or twice. But belting out Tommy Bell is no simple matter, and if Ray can't do it early, he'll probably turn on the gas, whirl around that ring like a jet-propelled meteor and sink those blinding jabs and stunning counters while on the move. Enough of such tactics might soften up Tommy in the middle and late rounds, take the sting out of him and then Robinson could move back in there and try to slug him out of the picture. Fri. 12-20-46

No matter how you look at it and how good Bell is, I can't see Ray losing. He's the greatest fighter in the world, and here's the most important fight of his life. No, I kinda feel Robinson will turn in a gem tonight by scoring two notable achievements. Winning the title . . . and simultaneously becoming the first man to ever put Tommy Bell sleepy-bye.

In this Corner

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Ray Is Still Tops, Tho Past Peak

Mon. 12-23-46

—By Bill Mardo—

As many readers miss the 3 Star Edition of The Worker, we are carrying over this column on the championship fight.

RAY ROBINSON didn't have to apologize to anyone for his stirring win over tall 'n talented Tommy Bell, but later when the reporters filed out of his dressing room and he lay stretched out on his rubbing table, bathed in towels and a bath-robe, I asked Ray did he think the years had begun to catch up with him.

He looked at me, a serious cast covering his eyes, and simply said: "Well, that's for you to decide. I wasn't at my peak tonight. I've been sick, you know." Trainer George Gainsford added: "He's had the grippe in his system a few months now."

The question I had asked of Ray may sound a bit cruel considering the man had finally attained his dream of a world title that should've been his five years ago when he was a 21-year old sliver of streaked lightning whom no mortal could touch with a glove long enough to bother him . . . a kid who threw punches with the snap and speed of an electric shock. Yet as one who's been convinced for years that Ray Robinson has had no equal as the greatest fighter of his day, this scribe had to get an answer to the disturbing question from Ray himself. When you see the first signs of an unbelievably perfect fighting machine going back, believe me, it cuts into you like a knife. At least it did this writer who never again expects to see the likes of the fighter Ray was two years ago when he handled Jake LaMotta as though that great middleweight was a toy which he, Robinson, was enjoying to the utmost. For me, that will always be the most perfect ring performance I've ever seen. So will I also consider the greatest ring tragedy of modern times the painful fact that Ray Robinson spent the peak years of his career in unimportant boxing arenas of the nation, forced to fight the Maxie Shapiros and Izzy Janazzos over and over again only because the best men of his division hid from him as they would a leper.

I write no obituary for Ray Robinson here, because the sick scrapper who got off the floor from a seven-second knockout in round two and came back to cleverly ram enough brutal body blows in Tommy Bell's belly to take the sting out of him and then blast him to the canvas in the 11th round and insure the verdict that gave him the title four rounds later — that man, Ray Robinson, is still too much for any welterweight living and would still be my choice to beat your Rocky Grazianos and Marcel Cerdans and LaMottas and Zales, the best men in the middleweight division who outweigh Ray by at least ten pounds.

There will be future nights when Ray Robinson will look much better than he did against Tommy Bell, who as we reminded you the day of the fight, is unquestionably the finest welterweight in the world aside from Ray. Yes, there will be times again, when Ray, not weakened by the flu germ as he was Friday night past, will show more of the foot and hand speed, more of the coordination than was his the night he won the championship. But he'll never get it all back because man does not get younger with the passing years, and the slight signs noticeable that night six months ago when he kayoed a third-rate Joe Curcio in the first round, signs of lessened punching precision, those early marks of decay showed up again in the murderously rugged fight with Bell.

Give Sugar Ray the Title

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

If the New York Athletic Commission really wants to do a service for boxing, it will, without further delay, designate Sugar Ray Robinson as undisputed holder of the welterweight boxing title.

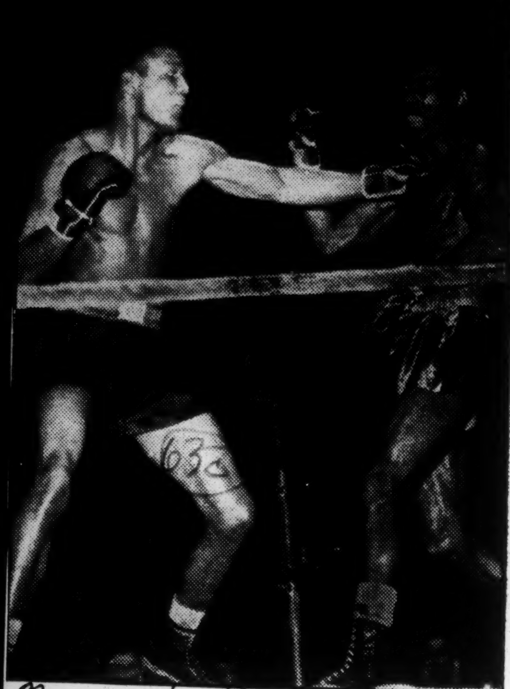
Marty Servo, dethroned welter champion, who has been ducking Robinson for two years, is still recognized by the National Boxing Association, which is another way of saying that the NBA approves Servo's runaround of Sugar Ray—a fact not surprising to the wise boys around Jacobs Beach.

According to Robinson, he spent around $11,000 preparing for the title shot and turned down bouts which would have brought him some $60,000. He stands to lose, then, around $80,000 as the result of the action of Servo and his manager. Sat. 9-14-46

When it is considered that Robinson easily is the outstanding contender for the title and that he has twice beaten Servo, it is apparent that he has been given a raw real. To force him to wait until an "elimination tournament" turns up a likely foe is merely adding insult to injury.

Dr. C. B. Powell, one of the two commissioners, scored a point when he prevailed upon the commission to dethrone Servo. We hope that he can go a step further and have Robinson awarded the title which is rightfully his by default.

Newsweek Dayton, Ohio



Acme

New Billing: *The long career of Ray Robinson (left) as the uncrowned welterweight champion ended last week. He became champion in fact in a fifteen-round roughhouse with Tommy Bell, the target in this unusual picture of pain.*

Mon. 12-30-46

Sugar Ray Outpoints Bell for Welter Title

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Winner Gets Up Off Floor to Gian Verdict in Hectic Fray

Sat. 12-28-46

NEW YORK—At long last, Ray (Sugar) Robinson is the recognized world welterweight champion, having won the title in a rousing 15-round bout with Tommy Bell of Youngstown, Ohio, here Friday night at Madison Square Garden.

A crowd of 15,673 fans plodded through rain and sleet to witness a brawl that bristled with action from the word "Go!" For their trouble and for the $82,948 they dropped into the till of Mike Jacobs, these brave souls saw the redoubtable Harlem Sugarboy twice come back from the brink of defeat to score a unanimous decision over the only man in the world his weight who wasn't afraid of him.

It was a bruising clash throughout, one in which a game, gallant loser failed to win simply because his adversary was a man who just wouldn't stay put.

On two occasions, the rugged Bell sent the highly-regarded Sugar Ray for hurried trips to "queer street," that state of grogginess known to fighters when they're on the road to being knocked out. But each time, the new champion's class told and he pulled his way out of trouble.

Floored for a 7-count in the second round by a vicious left hook to the chin, Robinson came back in the third to draw blood from Bell's nose with a series of straight rights that found their mark. And from that point on, the brawl was as blood-smeared as it was thrill-packed.

Bell Comes Back

After boxing on even terms in the third, Robbie grabbed the lead in the early stages of the fourth and withstood a desperate closing bid by Bell to take the round.

But Tommy bounced back in the fifth and had Sugar Ray in distress, landing hard smashes to the head with his left. Robinson, meanwhile, was concentrating on Bell's body and was handled quite roughly for his pains. Bell took the round, being plainly the stronger of the two at the gong.

Sugar Ray, beginning to respect the Ohioan's punching ability, elected to box through the sixth and seventh rounds, and in the eighth and ninth changed from leading to countering. At the end of the ninth, it was Bell who appeared the more tired of the two

Bell Floored

He came back, however, in the waning moments of the tenth to gain an even break on the AFRO score card, twice shaking Ray with short rights to the body that made the Harlemite wince.

Bell went down midway of the eleventh under a barrage of lefts and rights and took a count of nine. He came up slugging, but Robinson was on top of him and trying for the kill. At the bell, a weary Ray was banging away at a dead game opponent who defied all the laws of gravity and human endurance to remain on his feet.

Tommy came back strong in the thirteenth, but Robinson, boxing cagily, held the upper hand through the two final heats.

Referee Eddie Joseph and Judge Artie Schwartz voted Ray 10 and Bell 5; Judge Jack O'Sullivan tallied 8 rounds for Robbie and 6 for Tommy. The AFRO sheet saw Ray the winner by a margin of 9 rounds to 5, with one even.

Hardest Hitter

After the fight, Ray told reporters that Bell is "the hardest hitting welterweight I have ever met, though Fritzie Zivic was smarter."

He said he would rest a while, then seek a bout with the winner of the Rocky Graziano-Tony Zale match for the middleweight championship. Asked whether he would box Bell again, Ray declared, "Yes. I'd fight him again, but I'd hate to have 'em that tough all the time."

Bell told the AFRO: "Ray's a great boxer, but I think I should have taken him tonight."

Bell cried in his corner as Announcer Harry Balogh announced the verdict declaring Robinson the victor "and new welterweight champion."

ROBINSON DEFEATS BELL IN 15 ROUNDS

Times

New York, N.Y.

Captures World Welterweight Championship With Victory Over Ohioan at Garden

Sat. 12-21-46

SEMI-FINAL HOTLY FOUGHT

Garcia Wins Despite Stirring Finish by Wilmer—Devine Stops Monty in Fourth

63c

By JAMES P. DAWSON

Ray Robinson, flashy Harlem boxer, annexed the welterweight championship last night when he defeated Tommy Bell of Youngstown, Ohio, on points in a fifteen-round title fight at Madison Square Garden.

A crowd of 16,000 was present for the struggle to determine a successor to the title renounced by Marty Servo. Robinson weighed 146½ pounds, Bell 146.

The referee was Eddie Joseph. The judges were Jack O'Sullivan and Artie Schwartz.

That Robinson did not hold his rival cheaply was manifest in the first round. The Harlemite's superior boxing atlo ng range was demonstrated, as he jabbed with his left, hooked lefts to the face or body, and once hooked a left to the jew that was followed by a solid right to the head.

At close quarters, however, Bell worked tirelessly, digging both hands to the mid-section and to the ribs. Robinson was anxious to hold in the clinches. Bell missed his best punch, a looping right for the jaw which was wide of the target midway through the round.

Bell started the second at a furious clip, pressing Robinson about the ring, firing lefts and rights for the jaw, missing most of the blows but landing with enough, or grazing the head often enough to make Robinson cagy.

Robinson boxed superbly, riding with his rival's blows or ducking under them, countering with stiff left jabs or solid left hooks to the jaw, with an occasional right to the read.

Until near the bell this action continued, when suddenly Bell lashed a wicked left hook to the jaw which floored Robinson in his tracks for a count of seven. Arising, Robinson faced a gale of blows until the bell ended the round, but avoided further damage.

Robinson Boxes Better

Robinson outboxed his rival in the third, sticking and stabbing Bell with snappy straight lefts and planting left hooks to the face and head repeatedly. These blows drew blood from Bell's nose without, however, lessening his eagerness.

The Ohioan charged at Robinson steadily, at times traded left for left in jabbing bursts, and occasionally drove a right to the head with jarring force. Robinson's two-fisted fire, sometimes directed to the body, was more accurate.

Danger signals were flying for Robinson again late in the fourth He outboxed and outpunched Bell through 2 minutes of the round, banging rights and lefts to the head and body until it seemed Bell must crumple.

Instead of crumpling Bell fought on doggedly, and in the last minute rocked Robinson to his toes with a left hook to the jaw. Following his advantage, Bell fought furiously, driving with rights and lefts for the head and jaw, but many of the blows missed.

Bell twice stumbled forward and fell to his knees leading punches. Robinson clinched desperately at every chance until the bell.

Robinson had to fight desperately through the fifth with Bell intent on a knockout. Tommy waded into Robinson from the bell, driving lefts and rights for the head and jaw, driving in against Robinson's wicked lefts and rights to the body and head, seeking always to land a damaging punch.

Right Jars Harlemite

Not until the last ten seconds of the round, however, did Bell reach the target. Then a right that was high jarred Robinson to his toes and the Harlemite had to seek refuge in a clinch to the bell.

Robinson outboxed and outhit Bell through the sixth round at long range and in the close-quarter fighting. Through the seventh, Robinson had things all his way, because Bell missed many punches, though he pressed forward eagerly despite the batteries.

Near the end of the seventh Robinson shot a left and right to the body and shifter with a left and right to the jaw that sent Bell diving forward to a clinch. The Ohioan quickly shook off the effects of the blows, though, and was fighting back at the bell.

Buddy Garcia, Galveston (Tex.) lightweight, received the verdict over Archie Wilmer, Philadelphia, in the eight-round semi-final. This was a keenly waged battle from first bell to last, a struggle featuring head-to-head slugging and long-range boxing.

The crowd didn't like the decision and greeted the announcement with a noisy demonstration. A spectacular finish by Wilmer impressed the onlookers, and, in the opinion of some, overbalanced superb boxing and sharp hitting by Garcia through most of the early rounds.

It could not be denied, however, that Garcia's early work was superior to that of Wilmer in many of the frequent exchanges. Garcia weighed 136 and Wilmer 133.

Devino Wins in Fourth

Archie Devino, Long Island featherweight, was credited with a knockout over Tommy Monty, Brooklynite, in 1:59 of the fourth of their scheduled six-round battle, when Referee Jim Freeman halted proceedings to save Monty. The crowd didn't like this interference in an exciting encounter and jeered so noisily it was impossible to introduce the principals in the succeeding event.

Each boxer was down twice during the progress of the fight, but the fans thought Monty, up from the latest knockdown, was in condition to continue. Devino weighed 125 and Monty 129. 12-21-46

63c 1946

Ray "Sugar" Robinson

Baltimore, Md. RAY (SUGAR) ROBINSON Sat. 12-21-46

1946 Ring Record of Ray Robinson

Date		Wgt.	Opponent	Place	Result	
Jan.	14th	148	Dave Clark	Pitt.	KO	2
Feb.	5th	147	Tonny Riccio	Eliz.	KO	2
	15th	147½	O'Neill Bell	Detroit	KO	2
	26th	147	Cliff Beckett	St. Louis	KO	4
Mar.	4th	147	Sammy Angott	Pitt.	W	10
	14th	149½	Izzy Jannazzo	Balto.	W	10
	21st	150	Freddy Flores	N.Y.	KO	5
June	12th	156½	Freddy Wilson	Worcester	KO	2
	25th	147	Norman Rubio	Union City	W	10
July	12th	149½	Joe Curcio	Garden	KO	2
Aug.	15th	151½	Vinnie Vines	Albany	KO	6
Sept.	25th	149	Sidney Miller	Eliz.	KO	3
Oct.	7th	152	Ossie Harris	Pitt.	W	10
Nov.	1st	146¾	Cecil Hudson	Detroit	KO	6
	6th	150	Artie Lecine	Cleve.	KO	10

Baltimore, Md. TOMMY BELL Sat. 12-21-46

1946 Ring Record of Tommy Bell

Date		Wgt.	Opponent	Place	Result	
Jan.	11th	150½	Jake LaMotta	Garden	L	10
Feb.	14th	149¾	Billy Furrone	New York	KO	2
Mar.	4th	149¼	Danny Williams	Philadelphia	KO	5
Apr.	30th	148¾	Bobby Simmons	Youngstown	W	10
May	6th	150	Cecil Hudson	New York	L	10
July	18th	148	Willard Buckless	North Adams	KO	2
July	29th	149	Jackie Wilson	Philadelphia	W	10
Sep.	27th	148¾	Cecil Hudson	Milwaukee	W	10

'Sugar' Takes Title; Beats Bell in 15

P.M. New York, N.Y.

By JACK MAHON

Ray Robinson reached the end of the trail at Madison Square Garden Friday night—the hard way.

With 15,670 fans screaming for the kill on three occasions, the Sugar Kid came up off the floor to win the "world's welterweight championship by outpointing Tommy Bell, Youngstown, O., in a 15-round, thrill-studded battle that kept bookmakers and fans on the edges of their pews.

Robinson won it, but it was close enough to cause such kindhearted bookies who laid as high as 6-1 on Ray at ringtime a palpitation of what is left of their hearts. The fight was no cinch for Robinson. He took it on the PM scorecard by eight rounds, six for Bell, and the last, most disappointing of them all, even. Sun. 12-22-46

The verdict was unanimous. Judge Jack O'Sullivan had it eight, six, and one even for Robinson. The other judge, Artie Schwartz, and Referee Eddie Josephs, tabbed it 10 for Robinson and five for Bell.

Robinson Better

As we saw it, Robinson was the better, but by no means the far superior' fighter. He seemed to play for the obvious fact that Bell would fade in the stretch. Ray received a rude surprise. Bell, apparently ready for the cleaners, after getting his brains knocked out in the 11th round, fought back like a wild man to win the 13th and 14th and bring the shortenders and many others to their feet.

Tommy actually staggered Robinson in the 14th round with a hard right which landed on the Sugar Kid's temple and, for a few minutes, it appeared that Bell might pull the fight out of the fire.

It was all Bell for the last 50 seconds of the 14th and the 15th, when most of the mob thought the boys really would decide the issue. The last round was the dullest and most uninteresting. Neither did anything.

There was much clinching in the first, which Robinson won. In the second, Robinson started to dance and rush. It didn't pay off. Tommy caught Ray running in with a beauty of a left hook, flush on the chin, and Robinson hit the deck, badly dazed.

Robbie Comes Back

Ray got off the floor, but was looking for the harbors of home for the next 30 seconds. He recovered long enough to outstab and outpunch Thomas in the third, but in the fourth and the fifth Bell was stronger. Bell jammed a left hook to the stomach in the fourth which almost reached Ray's Adam's apple.

In the fifth, Ray connected with a right to the lug, in the last 15 seconds, which was of no help, either.

The sixth was not much. The next three, Robinson won, with something to spare. Ray bore down and outpunched Bell.

Bell came back with a two-handed body attack in the final 30 seconds of the 10th to surprise Robinson. 12-22-46

Robinson was mad in the 11th and tore in and floored Bell with a murderous left to the body, right, and left one-two punch to the head.

The 12th was a chase, with Robinson unable to nail Bell.

Fight Off, Welter Title Vacated

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 9-4-46

The New York State Boxing Commission stripped Marty Servo of his world welterweight championship yesterday and ordered an elimination tournament to determine his successor.

This action was taken because Servo refused to go through with a scheduled title defense against Ray (Sugar) Robinson at Yankee Stadium Friday night, after his request for a third postponement was rejected.

A couple of eight round bouts have been hastily arranged for a Garden show to fill in the Friday night spot. Barnard Docusen, classy young welter from New Orleans, tangles with rough, mauling Norman Rubio of Albany and Johnny Dell meets Eddie Giosa.

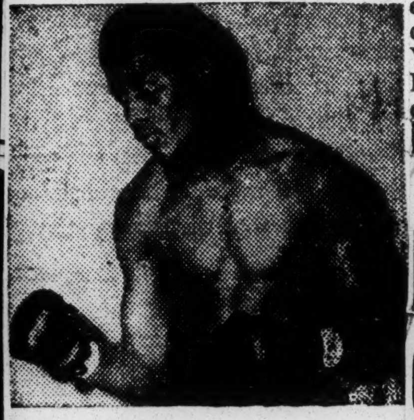
RAY FAVORED, BELL PREDICTS KO WIN

Daily Worker

The great Ray Robinson, nemesis of every welterweight or middleweight active today, finally gets his shot at a world title tonight when he tangles with Tommy Bell in a 15-round fight for welterweight honors at Madison Square Garden.

Robinson is a heavy favorite to beat his tall and talented opponent from Youngstown, Ohio because of his remarkable record, all-round class and a previous victory over Bell at Cleveland two year ago. *New York, N.Y.*

In 75 professional bouts, Robinson lost but one decision and was held to one draw. Robinson's lone defeat was accomplished by rugged Jake Lamotta of the Bronx, who is generally rated the No. 1 middleweight contender. Lamotta outpointed Ray at Detroit, Feb. 5, 1945; but Ray beat Lamotta in each of their other four tilts. Jose Basora, Puerto Rican middleweight, held Robinson to a 10-round draw at Philadelphia, May 14, 1945. *Fri. 12-20-46*



RAY ROBINSON gets his long sought title crack tonight.

Both contenders are explosive punchers. Robinson has belted out 49 of his 75 opponents; Bell has put away 26 of his 51 adversaries. When Bell arrived in New York yesterday from his training camp at Summit, N. J., he boldly predicted that he would knock out Robinson, "along about the 12th round." *12-20-46*

Bell, at 23, is unusually tall for a welterweight, approaching Robinson's six feet; and he, too, is endowed with an unusually long reach. He is an excellent combination boxer-puncher, who beat Fritzie Zivic when the ex-welter champ was still "good." He knocked out Chuck Hunter twice and outpointed him once. He beat Cecil Hudson and California Jackie Wilson. He is handicapped by flat feet, which force him to use a shuffling style and which endanger his balances at times.

Each expected to weigh just under the 147-pound limit.

Matchmaker Nat Rogers anticipates a crowd of 17,000 and a gate of $90,000.

Tonight's winner will be recognized as world champion by both the New York Commission and the National Boxing Association.

Sugar Ray Bout Off

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. Sat.

DETROIT (NNPA) — The Ray (Sugar) Robinson-Cecil Hudson welterweight bout at Detroit was postponed indefinitely last Tuesday after Robinson was reported in bed with a temperature of 102, and no disciplinary action was planned against Robinson for leaving Detroit. *10-26-46*

Michigan Boxing Commissioner John Hettche said last Monday that action would be taken against Robinson, rated the top welterweight, unless the New York boxer appeared in Hettche's office today. Dr. Clarence Hogans of New York then informed Hettche that Robinson was bedded with "signs of congestion in the lung."

Weight Problem Confronts Champion

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 12-28-46

Roaring Crowd of 15,000 Pays Out $82,948 To See 'Sugar' Beat Rugged Tommy Bell In Sensational 'Swing Session'

By WENDELL SMITH
Sports Editor

NEW YORK CITY—Ray (Sugar) Robinson waited five years to win the welterweight championship of the world. He finally won it last Friday night in a sensational, barroom brawl with stout-hearted Tommy Bell.

And now that he's got it . . . what's he going to do with it?

That's the big question in "sock row" today as the classy kid who bombed his way from the basement of a church—where he learned how to fight—to the top of the welterweight division, fondles his prized crown. Robinson waited a long, long time to win the welterweight crown, and now he may have to give it up because "mother nature" is trying to decorate his midriff with a middleweight bulge, and that means, of course, that his days as a welterweight are slowly, but surely coming to a definite end.

GREAT FIGHT

It was a great fight last Friday night and the 15,000 fans who roared their approval from the first round through the thirteenth as Robinson and Bell tried to "murder" each other, left Madison Square Garden almost as exhausted as the two fighters.

"Tommy - Gun" Bell surprised everyone as he took the play away from the highly-rated Robinson and almost won the title in the second round with a ripping left hook to the jaw. It landed squarely on Sugar's sturdy jaw and he went down like the 1929 stock market ticker. But it wasn't quite enough. Robinson proved he had the mettle of a champion by getting up and punching his way on to victory.

When it was all over, Robinson was a tired, tired fighter. He had the time of his spectacular fistic life trying to handle the persistent, under-rated fighter from Youngstown, Ohio. He had to fight all the way, use all his ring sense and punch with the determination of a Joe Louis in order to win.

WASN'T EASY

Robinson was expected to win the battle without exerting himself too much. But after the first round he found himself matched with a fearless, strong, courageous fighter. As a result, he had to resort to all the tricks in the book, plus his great boxing ability.

That is why we believe Ray Robinson must leave the welterweight division soon. He is having difficulty making the weight. It was obvious Friday night that he lacked a certain something—and that something was strength! Robinson will find out in the future that it takes too much physical power away from him when he fights as a welterweight. He weighed 146¼ to Bell's 146. He had to take off at least five pounds to make that weight and it definitely affected him. Bell was unquestionably the stronger of the two men. The Ohioian "bossed" the fight until he got so tired he couldn't man-handle "Sugar" any longer. But before exhaustion caught up with him, Bell pushed, wrestled and hauled Robinson all over the ring. That was the first time a welterweight ever jostled the usually strong and sturdy Ray Robinson around a ring. Bell started it in the first round and kept it up until about the tenth. He was much the stronger of the two and that is why Robinson had such a tough evening of it. Had Ray been fighting at 152 pounds, he probably would have knocked Bell out. But he didn't have that extra "oomph" and consequently had to box, cleverly and extremely fast, in order to win.

The important thing, however, is that he did win. And he won like a real thorobred, getting up off the floor and putting on one of the greatest, fanciest boxing shows ever staged in historic Madison Square Garden. On my score card, Robinson won eight rounds, Bell five, and two were even.

The fact that "Sugar" was extended and forced to fight at top speed all the way attests to Bell's ability. Robinson is the champion, but Bell is the guy who made him reach back and come up with all that was in him to get it. Robinson found himself confronted with a terrific puncher and a guy who refused to acknowledge the fact he was in there with the great, "unconquerable" Ray (Sugar) Robinson. Bell charged at the new champion with a sneer on his battered lips and disdain in his fox-like eyes. He took the best punches "Robbie" had and came back for more. Bell finally succumbed to Ray's attack in the eleventh round. He went down, however, more from exhaustion than from the power of the blows. He was game to the core, and if his legs had held up like his heart, Robinson might still be trying to floor him.

So, at long last, Ray Robinson is wearing the crown he so richly deserves. He was a long time getting it because the other champions—Servo and Cochrane—ran and hid whenever he came around. But he's the boss now and the other guy's will have to come to him. They'd better come soon, however, because right now it looks like Robinson isn't going to be a welterweight long. He's on his way up the ladder and looking in the direction of Tony Zale, the champion. *12-28-46*

Meantime, Tommy Bell is standing around, just waiting. This bombastic socker from the Buckeye State is a fightin' man and he's ready to take on all comers, including Ray Robinson. He's a bad hombre—that Tommy Bell is. If you doubt us, just ask the new welterweight champion of the world!

ROBINSON'S WEIGHT GUARDED BY PILOT

The Times
New York, N.Y.
Tues. 12-17-46

Manager Refuses to Put Him on Scales Before Friday—Ray and Bell Both Fit

An attempt to ascertain the weight of Ray Robinson yesterday at the State Athletic Commission was frustrated by George Gainford, the Harlem boxer's manager.

There is no Commission regulation making it mandatory for Robinson to step on the scales so far in advance of his meeting against Tommy Bell, Youngstown, Ohio, Friday night in Madison Square Garden.

Robinson and Bell are to fight for the world welterweight title vacated by Marty Servo. They visited the Commission yesterday for a physical examination by Dr. Sym Newman. Manager Braca suggested the boxers be weighed officially, but Manager Gainford rejected the proposal with the statement: "Robinson will weigh officially Friday as required."

Neither Robinson nor Bell is expected to have any trouble with the weight. Each is a legitimate 147-pounder and reports from the training camps have been to the effect the two are at or near the poundage they must weigh at noon Friday. The examination of the boxers went off without incident. Each was found in excellent physical condition.

Bell has been training at Summit, N. J., for the past six weeks for a bid not only to become welterweight champion, but also to avenge a previous defeat at the hands of Robinson. The Ohioan lost a close decision to Robinson Jan. 16, 1945 in Cleveland. Bell plans to close hard training today and confine himself to light exercise tomorrow. *12-17-46*

Robinson, who has been training at Greenwood Lake, N. Y., transferred the scene of operations yesterday to Fred Irvin's Gym, formerly Billy Grupp's. He sparred four rounds against three sparmates, going one each against Jimmy Taylor and Clarence Wilkinson, and two with Jackie Cooper. The Harlem battler returned last night to Greenwood Lake, where he plans training sessions today and tomorrow.

World Title To Sugar Ray

Defender
Chicago, Ill

Tommy Bell Knocks Robinson To Canvas

Sat. 12-28-46

NEW YORK—Ray "Sugar" Robinson was knocked down for the count of seven in the second round by Tommy Bell before 15,670 cash customers who paid $82,948 in Madison Square Garden on Friday night, Dec. 20, in a battle to decide the world welterweight championship. Bell staggered Robinson, who seemed not like the Sugar Ray of five years ago, and had him holding on in the third and a bit wobbly in the fourth.

The five years Robinson has used up fighting anybody he could, even middleweights, has taken some of the steam and fancy footwork out of the Harlemite. It was not until the fifth that Ray could get going. He wore Bell down and in the 11th sent him to the canvas for the count of seven.

Bell came right back in the 13th and 14th fighting like a madman, giving Robinson plenty to worry about only to have Robinson put on one of those whirlwind finishes in the 15th.

Tommy kept laying left hook which found their way to Robinson's chin.

• • •

MANY IN THE CROWD booed the decision. Robinson who can still beat most of the present day welters and a good many 160-pounders won the world title and the decision of the judges and the referee. The Associated Press score card gave Robinson eight rounds, Bell five and two even. Robinson was a 5 to 1 shot in the betting.

Friday night's result makes Robinson moves into the spot vacated by Marty Servo who retired, with an aching nose, rather than battle Ray. The New York State Athletic Commission and the National Boxing Association agreed that the winner of last Friday's bout would be the undisputed welterweight champion. They also had agreed that any one who wanted the crown would have to fight Robinson to get it. Bell challenged Ray.

Friday night's result makes Robinson winner of 74 fights in 76 starts as a professional. He lost a questionable decision to Jake LaMotta, middleweight, but has beaten LaMotta since. He received a draw with another middleweight.

Ray's followers are a lot concerned because in the last three fights Robinson has been on the canvas.

In this corner

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Ray Was Never Closer To Being KO'd

By Bill Mardo

Fri. 11-8-46

TWO NIGHTS AGO at Cleveland, the greatest fighter of this age was within one second of being knocked out. A terrible left hook had landed flush on Ray Robinson's jaw midway through the fourth round of his fight with Artie Levine, and Sugar fell head first to the resin as if poleaxed. He lay that way until the count reached seven when he managed to roll over on his right side, prop one knee on the canvas and then wearily rise to his feet at the nine-count. Levine tore in for the kill, but Ray still had the presence of mind to back-pedal and clinch his way through the rest of the round.

Yes, that's the big moment that every fight fan in America is talking about today. The gifted Ray Robinson almost knocked cold by a savage-socking middleweight who can't get a match with the topnotchers of his class. That Robinson came on in the 10th round to sink a paralyzing left hook into Levine's midsection and then batter him into helplessness 19 seconds before the fight ended, that was almost an anti-climax to the fourth-round knockdown. Fight fans, great folk for an underdog and an upset, are too busy chattering about what almost was when Ray bit the canvas.

But while giving all the credit in the world to Artie Levine for his great attempt, let's not forget Ray's feat. Firstly, he's a welterweight and Levine's a full-fledged middleweight. Of course, this in itself isn't too amazing, as Robinson has been fighting the bigger men for years, ever since he started chasing rainbows in his search for a welterweight title crack. But anytime any fighter comes off the floor to belt out a bigger guy, brother, that's doing it the great way. Especially when you remember that Levine is a rugged customer who's never been flattened before.

Of course, there won't be any return until after Ray takes care of Tommy Bell in the welterweight title tilt next month. It's been a long wait for Ray, and right now he wants to give his brittle hands a chance to heal before tangling with Mister Bell, who is the finest welterweight in the land aside from Robinson himself.

After his hectic brawl with Levine, Sugar Ray paid his foe a great compliment, considering that Robbie has fought a lot of heavy sockers through the years. "If Levine isn't the best puncher I ever fought, he's so close to it that it doesn't matter."

Levine's a good-looking kid from Brooklyn who wasn't too sensational in his only two bouts at the Garden last year. He split with Sonny Horne, taking the first fight when Horne's cut eyes forced the ref to stop it—and dropped a decision to Horne in the rematch. But since then, Levine's been going great guns out of town, particularly at Cleveland where he scored six straight kayoes prior to his Robinson meeting.

My, how close he came to making it seven straight.

Ray Favorite to KO Curcio Tonight

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. Fri. 7-12-46

New York's boxing fans will have one of their rare opportunities to see the great Ray Robinson tonight, when the uncrowned welterweight king tangles with tough Joe Curcio in a ten-rounder at Madison Square Garden.

This will be Robbie's last bout prior to his long-awaited crack at Marty Servo's crown—even though the date and locale of that title tilt is still undecided because of a last minute announcement from Larry MacPhail that the Yankee Stadium won't be available on Aug. 21—the night originally set for the match. It's expected that Mike Jacobs may put the Robinson-Servo affair on at the Stadium a week before the Louis-Mauriello match there.

Be that as it may, Robinson goes to the wars tonight against a southpaw battler for the first time in his brilliant career. And while Sugar Ray is a lopsided favorite to win, a goodly crowd of about 14,000 is expected for several reasons: first, to see Robinson in action; second, because it's his first test against a lefty; and third, because of Curcio's fairly impressive record.

Curcio, a dark-haired belter from Newark, has compiled an interesting record in the past two years—winning 32 out of 33 and scoring over such welterweight topnotchers as Cecil Hudson, Freddie Archer, Aaron Perry, Fritzie Zivic, and others. He hits fairly hard, is fast and strong, and rallies well when stung.

Another interesting angle to tonight's fight is the question of Robinson's hands. The smooth-punching Ray injured his left wrist and sprained his right thumb while hammering out a 10-round decision over rugged Norman Rubio at Union City, N. J. several weeks ago — and some of Curcio's rooters envision a possible upset if Robbie's mitts aren't in good shape for this evening's encounter.

But Ray insists that the injuries have responded to treatment and is going through with tonight's match with full confidence that he'll flatten his rugged foe or at least box his way to a unanimous victory.

Both battlers are working on a string of winning streaks. Curcio has racked up 12 straight wins, and Robinson, of course, hasn't lost since he dropped a decision to Jake LaMotta several years ago—a defeat which Ray has decisively made up for by taking LaMotta in four of the five fights those two have had.

We look for Ray to easily rack up his 69th win in tonight's, his 70th bout as a pro. If Robbie's hands hold up, he should score an early kayo. Otherwise look for him to pound out a clean and overwhelming decision.—MARDO.

Sugar Ray Says He Wants No Gift Title

The Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

ELIZABETH, N.J.—(NNPA)—Ray (Sugar) Robinson, the No. 1 contender for the vacant welterweight crown, declared here Wednesday night of last week, that he has no intention of claiming the title.

The New York State Athletic Commission declared the title vacant after Marty Servo, some weeks ago, refused to go through with a championship fight with Robinson, who has been called "the uncrowned champion."

The New York State Athletic Commission, last Thursday, told Jack and Tippy Larkin that if they refused to meet Robinson for the 147-pound championship, the commission would award the title to Robinson. *Sat. 10-5-46*

Ray Floored by Foul Blow

Robinson on Wednesday night stopped Sidney Miller, 151 of Youngstown, Ohio, in the third round of a scheduled 10-round bout at the Twin City Arena. The referee stopped the bout after Miller went down for the third time. Robinson was down in the first round from a low left hook landed by Miller.

After the bout, Robinson said he would be glad to fight Beau Jack for the welterweight crown. If the New York State Athletic Commission and the NBA see fit to proclaim him titleholder, he will accept the honor.

"But I don't want any championship handed me on a silver plate," said Robinson. "I want to win it the right way. I'm sorry that Servo has to quit the ring because of injuries, but I lost interest in him when the New York Boxing Commission took the championship away from him for not fighting me."

ROBINSON SCORES KNOCKOUT VICTORY

The Times, New York, N.Y.

Halts Levine in Tenth Round After Taking a 9-Count in 5th at Cleveland

Fri. 11-8-46

CLEVELAND, Nov 6 (AP)—Ray (Sugar) Robinson dug himself out of the canvas after a fifth round, nine-count knockdown tonight to knock out heavy-hitting Artie Levine of Brooklyn in 2:41 of the last round of a scheduled ten-rounder before 12,102 fans who paid $83,171.98. Robinson weighed 150, Levine 159¼.

Robinson had an edge over the Brooklyn bomber for the first nine rounds, despite the fifth round when he dived into the canvas after being clipped with a left hook while pinned in his own corner.

The knockout, which came with dramatic suddenness, ended Artie's five-knockout victory string in the local arena.

In the ninth Levine had staggered Robinson with a left hook, sending him reeling across the ring, but the Brooklyn boy was slow following up his advantage and Robinson got away.

In the tenth, as they slugged toe to toe, Robinson sunk his left into Levine's midriff, and Artie sagged against the ropes, Robinson battering him into helplessness as he hung onto the top strand and refused to go down. He was counted out while seated on the lower rope.

The gladiators were guaranteed $12,500 each with a privilege of 27½ per cent, one of the largest purses ever paid here.

The victory was Robinson's seventy-third in seventy-five professional fights, his record being marred only by a decision loss to Jake LaMotta and a draw with a virtual unknown. The knockout was the first ever suffered by Levine.

Up to the finish the referee had Robinson leading by five rounds to four, and the judges five to three with one even, and six to two with one even.

Levine started slugging with the uncrowned welterweight champion as early as the second round, but it was in the fifth that he made his magnificent gesture.

In mid-ring, he clipped Robinson with a right to the jaw, and Ray retreated to his own corner, covering up. Artie slugged away with both hands, but Robinson caught 'em on his gloves.

As Robinson tried to come out fighting, he hooked his left and missed, and Levine's left slipped over his right shoulder for a clean punch to the jaw. Robinson fell forward on his face and was barely able to get up. He retreated the rest of the round.

Servo loses title; runs out on Robinson

Tribune, Los Angeles, Calif. Sat. 9-7-46

NEW YORK—Ray "Sugar" Robinson isn't much better off than he was five years ago as far as the world's welterweight title goes. Ill-starred as he has been in his quest for the bauble, he might have expected just what happened last Tuesday: welterweight champion Marty Servo forfeited the crown rather than make his overdue title defense which was scheduled for last night at Yankee stadium.

For the third time Monday, Servo and his manager Al Weill asked for a postponement of the match and were refused by the New York state athletic commission. After the refusal they flatly said they wouldn't go through with the match and the commission immediately stripped Servo of the title.

Servo claimed that the nose injury he had received when he lifted the title from Freddy "Red" Cochrane in February would jeopardize his chances against Robinson now. This was the first time the commission has dethroned a champion since 1938 when middleweight champion Freddy Steele was stripped down because of his refusal to fight Fred Apostoli.

Besides taking away Servo's title, the commission immediately suspended him, Al Weill, and trainer Charlie Goldman. And it also claimed the $2,000 forfeit which Servo had deposited with the commission to bind him to the title bout with Robinson, who now must get in line again as the commission has ordered an elimination to determine the inheritor.

Odd Ending Is Ruled A Kayo

The Defender, Chicago, Ill.

Loser Unable To Get Off Floor For 2nd

Sat. 7-20-46

NEW YORK — (NNPA) — Ray Robinson knocked out Joe Curcio of Newark in Madison Square Garden last Friday night with a punch which landed with the bell that ended round one.

With Curcio stretched full length on the canvas, flat on his back,

his handlers worked feverishly to revive him, but when the bell rang to start the second round Curcio was still stretched out.

Referee Billy Cavanagh bent over him to start a count. Cavanagh got to five and then realized Curcio would never get up in time. He waved the official finish, making it a second-round knockout.

After a minute and 40 seconds he came to and his second and manager dragged him to his corner.

* * *

IN THE MEANTIME, many of Curcio's big Jersey following, screaming "he hit him after the bell," rushed the ring and tried to enter, either to help Curcio or go for Robinson. Garden policemen quieted the irate partisans after a few minutes. Four landed on the sidewalk on the 49th st. side.

The one round of fighting was packed with action. Curcio, the underdog in the 12 to 5 betting, slugged it out with Robinson, even forcing the latter to back up a couple of times. Fighting at long range, Robinson sent two right smashes to Curcio's jaw before landing the left hook that stopped Curcio.

Robinson scaled 149½ pounds as against 150½ for his victim.

* * *

AFTER THE FIGHT ROBINSON said: "I got no bells ringing in my head." He added, "If I hit him after the bell I'm sorry."

Curcio confessed that he didn't hear the bell. "I don't remember any bell and I don't remember being on the floor. I came to in my corner," the loser said.

A crowd of 12,353 paid $51,626 to see the scrap. Of those who held ringside seats, few heard the bell.

Charley Smith, a replica of Allie Stolz in dark skin, won the eight-round semi-final from Paul Reguelo, 133.

Johnny Clark, after being bloodied from blows which landed in his face, decisioned Joe Reddick, 169, in six. George Johnson, 134, lost to Gabe Ferland. Tony Bertucci, 153¼ decisioned Julie Cross. Frank Palermo, 138½, won from Tony DeSalvo.

The Afro-American

NEW YORK—(NNPA) — The New York Boxing Commission found itself in a predicament last Friday in its attempt to crown a world welterweigh champion to succeed retired and dethroned Marty Servo.

No qualified challenger wants to fight Ray Robinson, acknowledged leader of the 147-pound class, and the commission's rules specifically bar the award of a title except in the ring.

Beau Jack Not Interested

Beau Jack, former lightweight tenders ordered to sign for a title champion, and one of the two conbout with Robinson not only wanted no part of Robinson at this time, as revealed by Chick Wergeles, his manager, but Wergeles went further and told the commission to award the title to Sugar Ray without "further argument."

Tippy Larkin, the other contender named by the commission, obviously wasn't interested in fighting Robinson. Neither he nor his manager, Angelo Pucci, heeded the request of the commission to appear at a meeting last Friday. Baltimore, Md.

Decision Comes Friday

Wergeles did appear and was closeted with the commissioners, Robinson, George Gainford, Ray's manager, Mike Jacobs and Nat Rogers, matchmaker. After a sealed twenty-minute conference,, Eddie Eagan, chairman of the commission ,announced that "owing to certain private details" no decision would be made until Friday. Sat. 10-5-46

hTe "private details" were, it developed later, Wergeles's decision to withdraw Jack from consideration as a title contender, leaving the commission and Jacobs with no title fight in which Robinson could earn the title in the ring, as required by commission law.

Says Ray Deserves Title

Wergeles, advised to keep mum in the hope he would change his mind, issued a statement anyway, explaining his decision on behalf of Beau Jack.

"Robinson has long been denied what really belongs to him," Wergeles said. "He should be awarded the title without any further argument. As soon as Beau Jack is finished with commitments already made and if he makes a good enough showing in his next several fights we may then challenge the welterweight champion.

Cites Lack of Experience

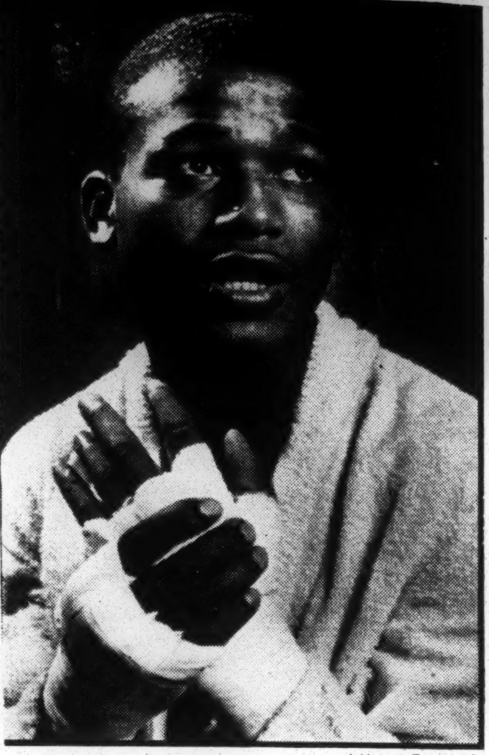
"Ater all," Wergeles continued, "Beau Jack has had very limited experience as a welterweight. He needs a few more bouts under his belt in this class before he challenges Ray Robinson, who is conceded by all to be the top man in the welterweight division.

"What's more," added Chick, "Beau is a little welterweight and Robinson has been beating light-heavyweights."

By a Nose Time Chicago, Ill.

"Sugar" Ray Robinson is a miniature Joe Louis: nobody wants to fight him either. The big difference between Sugar Ray and Joe—besides 60 pounds—is that Joe is a champ. But last week, Sugar Ray, the hard-luck guy of boxing, was all set to get a champion's chance.

Sportswriters had been calling Sugar Ray the uncrowned world welterweight champ for so long that the phrase came out of their typewriters automatically. But through the war years, an amiable, not too able fighter named Red Cochrane had the title frozen. When it came time to defend it last February, Red passed up Sugar Ray, who was first in line, fought one Marty Servo, who had put up $50,000 for the chance. Marty took the title by a



Albert Fenn-Pix

ROBINSON

The difference: 60 lbs. and a crown.

knockout. Last week Sugar Ray was 1-to-5 betting favorite to whip Marty Servo.

Three days before the fight, ominous words came from Servo's camp. Cried Servo's manager Al ("The Vest") Weill: "My boy can't breat' t'rough the right side of his nose; he ain't gonna fight no Robinson. . . ." The official explanation: Servo had been biffed by a sparring partner. 9-16-46

The redfaced New York Athletic Commission, as fed up as Sugar Ray was, promptly took the title away from Servo, ordered an elimination among other welterweights to see who would fight Robinson. The winner would be champion of the state of New York only: the National Boxing Association still called Servo champion. Said Sugar Ray: "I've waited so long it's not new any more."

In this corner

Daily Worker

Short Shots on Sugar Ray ~~And Dixie Walker~~

New york, new york

By Bill Mardo

It seems like ages since Sugar Ray Robinson last fought at the Garden. Actually it's slightly less than that, one year to be exact—when he knocked Jimmy McDaniels kicking inside of two rounds for the first canvas collapse in the career of that bony-featured Westerner. One year between bouts at the Garden! What a crime, the way the world's greatest battler, pound-for-pound, has been compelled to sit on the sidelines . . . or flatten a lot of third-raters out of town . . . or stay in trim by contributing his time to various charity cards. But a real crack at some of the welters whom Mike Jacobs has maneuvered into main eventers has steadfastly been denied Sugar Ray.

Prior to the McDaniels shindig last year, the very best Jacobs could do for Robinson was to match him twice with the brutally tough Jacob LaMotta, the number one middleweight who had some 20 pounds on Robbie whenever they met. But Ray fought five rough matches with LaMotta, beat him four times, and indeed if it wasn't for those fights, Robinson wouldn't have been able to make any big money at all. For he knew, as did everyone else close to the scene, that Mike Jacobs wasn't going to give him any welterweight matches and risk seeing such box office draws like Greco, Graziano, etc., get their heads knocked off. 7-6-46

It's been only recently, when the Boxing Commission belatedly demanded that Robinson be given his rightful crack at the welterweight crown, that the 20th Century Sporting Club has begun to deal with Ray again. And only because they have to. So it's with all this in mind that we remind you the greatest fighter in the business will show his stuff at the Garden next Friday night, when Robbie tangles with tough Tony Curcio in a ten-round tune-up for his title tilt against Marty Servo at Yankee Stadium Aug. 21. 7-6-46

This Curcio, in case the name is unfamiliar, really is a tough nut to crack. He's an aggressive, solid socking southpaw who's licked a lot of good welters, among whom are numbered talented Aaron Perry, Cecil Hudson and Freddie Archer. The rugged Newarker, incidentally, will be the first southpaw opponent Robinson's ever faced in his brilliant career. Not that he'll bother Ray for long, but it should be interesting to watch while it lasts. The important thing, though, is that Robbie is coming back to 49th Street again for the first time in over a year—and that's good enough news for any fight fan.

Robinson Too Great To Be Denied

Carrier

If the New York boxing commission permits Marty Servo, the newly-crowned welterweight champion to "deal around" Ray (Sugar) Robinson, it will be one of the rawest deals in the history of the fight game. The lords of New York's fight game okayed one "bad deal" for "Mr. Boxing" when they sanctioned the title bout between Servo and Cochrane recently. That bout was approved after Marty agreed to give the "Harlem Hurricane" first chance at the title, if he took it away from Cochrane. It was a foregone conclusion that Servo would lift the crown and he did. Now the New York Commission is obligated to force Servo to risk his jewels against Robinson, a great fighter who has been denied his just deserts far too long.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Ray Robinson

Ray Robinson is one of the greatest fighters of all time. No welterweight has ever beaten him and only one middleweight, Jake LaMotta, has been able to squeeze through with a triumph over the "Harlem Hurricane." On the other hand, Robinson dished out four good lacings to LaMotta, despite a terrific disadvantage in weight each time. Gene Tunney says that Robinson can beat Billy Conn, which is a slight indication of how high he stands in the minds of people who should know. He has already beaten Servo twice and figures to do it again if given the opportunity. But there are strange bedfellows in the fight game, and there is the possibility that Servo, conscious of Robinson's greatness, may try to take a powder when the time comes for him to square off again with Sugar. *2-16-46*

The New York Boxing Commission—like other commissions—is supposed to serve the interests of the public, not necessarily the promoter. The public is interested in seeing that Robinson gets a fair shake and will not be satisfied until he gets a shot at the welterweight title. There h-- been rumors to the effect that Ray has been given the go-by because he is "stubborn and hard-headed." That may be true—and then again it may not—but that is no reason to deny him a crack at the title. With the possible exception of Joe Louis, he is the greatest fighter in the ring today. The New York commission must see to it that he is not penalized for greatness and insist he be allowed to fight Marty Servo, the champion.

Ray Robinson Wins On Kayo In Fourth Round

Amsterdam News, New York

2-16-46

By LESLIE MATHEWS

ELIZABETH, N. J. — Sugar is still on the ration list so the New Jersey boxing fans and some from New York gathered at the Elizabeth Armory here last Tuesday to get a view of the precious stuff in the person of a fellow named Walker Smith.

Smith better known as Ray 'Sugar' Robinson was very lenient with Tony Riccio, his opponent, who weighed 155, for three rounds. Ray allowed Riccio to lay on him and some times Riccio pushed and mauled the world's best welterweight.

Referee Mangold probably hastened the end of the fight by his rough action in breaking a clinch in the third round. Ray went to his corner at the end of the third round and found his hair ruffled. The fourth was the end for the strong middleweight who outweighed Robinson 7¼ pounds. *2-16-46*

Robinson exhibited punching power with accuracy that is seldom seen in the squared circle when he pummeled Riccio to the head and body. After bouncing Riccio off the floor three times Referee Mangold intervened after 2:16 of the fourth round.

George Martin, 137, Frankie Franks young lightweight, looked very good in kayoing Salvatore Arragon, 134, in 1:28 of the third round.

The Infantile Paralysis Fund received $3,081.80 more than half supplied by Robinson. The gate receipts were $17,000.

THE ROUNDUP

Daily Worker, New York

Ray Robinson scored a fourth round kayo over tough Tony Riccio in Elizabeth Armory Wednesday. The great uncrowned welter king dropped Riccio to the canvas three times in two minutes before the ref intervened. *2-7-46*

Robinson donated his entire purse, less training expenses, to the infantile paralysis fund.

Sugar Ray Wins

Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va.

BALTIMORE, Md.— (NNPA) — Sugar Ray Robinson easily defeated Izzy Jannazzo, a fellow New Yorker, in the main bout at the Fifth Regiment Armory last Thursday night, scoring a unanimous decision in ten rounds.

Robinson carried the fight to Jannazzo and outboxed his Brooklyn foe throughout. Indicative of Robinson's mastery, none of the officials even scored a single round as a draw. *Sat. 3-23-46*

Robinson weighed 140¼ and Jannazzo 154.

SUGAR RAY STOPS BELL

Washington, D.C. Tribune

Detroit, Mich.—(C)—Ray Robinson, uncrowned king of the welterweight, knocked out O'Neil Bell in the second round of their scheduled 10 rounder bout. The sellout crowd numbered 14,922.

Weighing 147½, Robinson landed a hard left hook on Bell, 151¾, which floored him for a count of nine in the first round. Following up with a series of hard blows at the beginning of the second round, Robinson put Bell away a minute and 10 seconds before the bell. Detroit's biggest fight crowd of three years was thrilled but disappointed at the brevity of the performance. *Thurs. 3-5-46*

Ray Wins Again

Daily Worker, Wed. 3-6-46

Ray Robinson easily and soundly beat Sammy Angott Monday night in Pittsburgh. The former lightweight champ was on the floor twice, in the first and eighth rounds, and barely weathered the thunder in the fists of the uncrowned welter king. Duquesne Garden was jammed by 6,500 people who played an all time Pittsburgh high at the box office to see the great Harlem boxer in action.

Sugar Ray Robinson will donate 10 per cent of his purse from the Izzy Janazzo fight in Baltimore Thursday to Johnny Braun, Purple Heart veteran from the 104th Medical Regiment. The promoters will match the ante off the top. Johnny is paralyzed from the hips down.

Ray Robinson Kayos O'Neill Bell In Second

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.

DETROIT—Ray "Sugar" Robinson, the contender for the world championship, flattened Detroit's O'Neill Bell after one minute and 10 seconds of the second round here Friday night, Feb. 15 before a capacity crowd of 14,992 in the Olympic arena. *Sat. 2-23-46*

Robinson put Bell on the canvas for the full count with a left hook to the chin and a right which landed under Bell's heart.

Ray Robinson Defeats Izzy Jannazzo In 10

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.

BALTIMORE—(NNPA) — Sugar Ray Robinson easily defeated Izzy Jannazzo, white, a fellow New Yorker, in the main bout at the Fifth Regiment Armory Thursday night, Mar. 14. *Sat. 3-23-46*

Robinson carried the fight to Jannazzo and outboxed his Brooklyn foe throughout the 10 rounds. None of the officials scored a single round as a draw.

Robinson weighed 140¼, Jannazzo 154.

Ray Robinson Stops Clark In Second Round

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.

PITTSBURGH — Ray "Sugar" Robinson, the uncrowned welterweight king, scored a technical knockout over Dave Clark, Cincinnati, in the second round of a scheduled 10-rounder in the Duquense Gardens here Monday night, Jan. 14. Robinson weighed 148; Clark, 152. *Sat. 1-26-46*

Robinson put Clark on the canvas for the count of nine in the first round. In the second stanza Clark was on the floor twice for the nine count before the referee halted the fight. The TKO victory came in 2:22 of the second round.

A jam-packed house was thrilled with the hitting prowess of the New Yorker, who seeks Red Cochrane's crown. The fight drew a net gate of $20,415.18.

Ray Robinson Thrashes Jannazzo in Balto. Bout

Afro American, Baltimore, Md.

Harlem Sugarboy Wins All 10 Rounds of Armory Feature; Loser Shows Gameness

Sat. 3-23-46

BALTIMORE

Ray (Sugar) Robinson came to town Thursday night and promptly "went to town" on Izzy Jannazzo, Brooklyn Italian, whom he beat to the delight of 4,101 blood-thirsty customers at 5th Regiment Armory.

Robinson

The Harlem Sugarboy, pounding his opponent with everything in the books, failed to score a knockdown but won every round, and by a wide margin. The three officials—Referee Ed Brockman and Judges Buddy McQuade and Jack Portney—turned in cards which not so much as credited Janazzo with earning a draw in any of the 10 heats.

Izzy's nearest thing to an even round was the first when Ray, in his characteristic fashion, spent most of the time sparring while warming up. *Sat. 3-23-46*

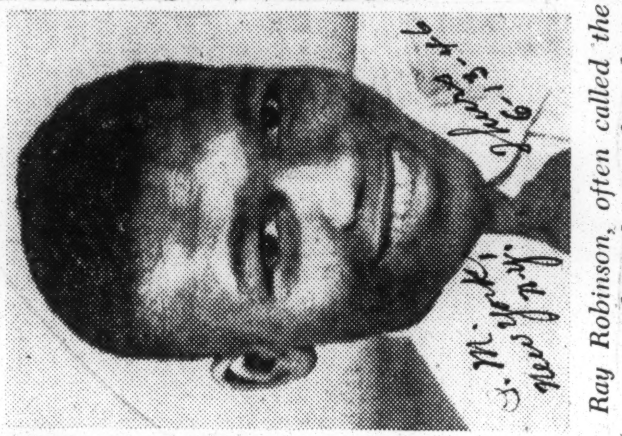
From the second round, the New York welterweight star began stalking Jannazzo and many in the audience were of the opinion the end was near at hand.

Ray staggered Izzy with a stiff left to the mid-section which he followed with a heavy right cross. The blow skidded off the Italian's ear, well out of the danger zone, but Jannazzo reeled perceptibly.

Through the third and fourth, Robinson continued to chase the bicycling Brooklynite. Several times he cornered Jannazzo but was able to break through the latter's defensive shell only because Izzy dropped his guard as his foe got home with an occasional kidney punch.

In many years of witnessing prize fights, the writer has seldom seen a display of such rare courage as that put on by the Brooklyn veteran. Unable to land a solid blow in 30 minutes of fighting, Jannazzo, nevertheless, in his inadequate way, tried to make a contest of it.—LACY.

Hats Off!



Ray Robinson, often called the "uncrowned welterweight champion," will receive a gold medal from the Albert Einstein Lodge of B'nai B'rith for his efforts in fostering inter-faith good will. The presentation will be made tonight at a rally at the Brooklyn Jewish Center. "Sugar Ray," a veteran, has spent much time in the last year appearing before youth organizations and other groups to speak for tolerance. He has announced that he will turn over to the Police Athletic Fund his entire purse for the match with Marty Servo, welterweight champion, late this Summer. *Thurs. 6-13-46*

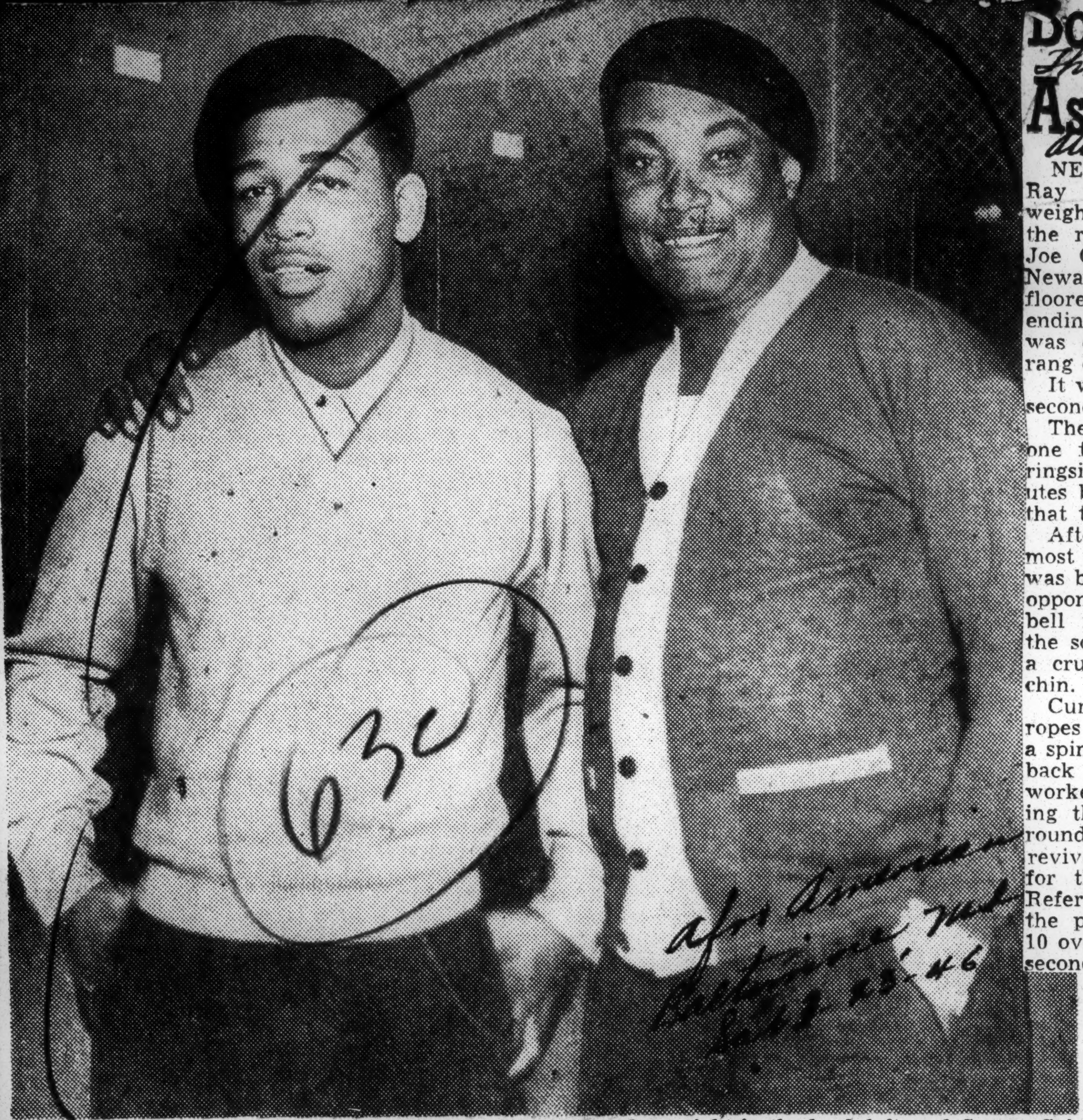
Hats Off!

Ray Robinson vacations in Florida

Tribune, Los Angeles, Cal.

MIAMI, Fla.— Walker Smith, alias Ray "Sugar" Robinson, pound-for-pound the greatest fighting machine going, and his wife, Edna May, left for New York City last Wednesday after spending a two-week vacation here fishing and resting. *Sat.*

Robinson went to New York to straighten out some tag-end business about his title bout with Marty Servo, after which he will begin training for his fight against an un-named opponent in Cleveland June 10th. While here he celebrated his 24th birthday and caught and mounted a 60-pound barracuda. *5-25-46*



THEY'RE OFFICIAL NOW—Ray Robinson, top-ranking welterweight in the land, left, and George Gainsford are finally a team. The New York State Athletic Commission late last week recognized Gainsford as Robinson's manager, ending the long fight by certain New York ring factions to gain Sugar Ray's contract for a white pilot. The pair were assured by the Gotham commissioner that Welterweight Champion Marty Servo will be required to live up to his agreement to give Ray a shot at the title on May 24, as previously arranged.

Boxer Kayoed As Gong Rings

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga. Sun. 7-14-46

NEW YORK, July 13—(UP)—Ray (Sugar) Robinson, welterweight challenger, scored one of the ring's rarest knockouts over Joe Curcio, young southpaw of Newark, N. J., last night when he floored Joe just as the bell rang ending the first round. Curcio was counted out when the bell rang opening the second round.

It was announced officially as a second-round knockout.

The unusual kayo precipitated one free-for-all fist fight at the ringside, and it was several minutes before quiet was restored so that the show could go on.

After savage fighting during most of the first round, Robinson was battering his game, ambitious opponent on the ropes just as the bell rang. Simultaneously with the sound of the gong, he landed a crushing left hook to Curcio's chin.

Curcio bounced against the ropes and then pitched forward in a spin that landed him flat on his back on the canvas. His seconds worked over him frantically during the minute interval between rounds, but they were unable to revive him. When the bell rang for the second round to begin, Referee Billy Cavanagh stood over the prostrate boxer and counted 10 over him. He was "out" at 10 seconds of the second round.

In this corner

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Is Ray Robinson Getting Another Brushoff?

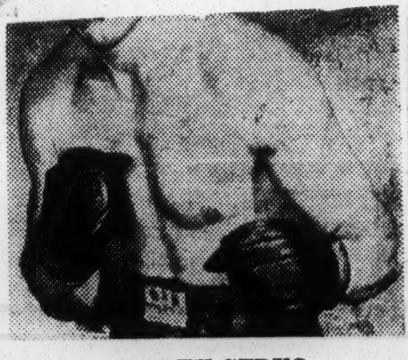
By Bill Mardo

The Case Against Ray Robinson continues unabated, with only slight hope for a last-minute reprieve from Commissioner Eddie Eagan.

Robbie, you all know, was officially signed for a May 24 title tilt with Marty Servo. No sooner was the ink dry on the fight articles, countless rumors began circulating to the effect that an 11th-hour

aggravated by the pounding he took from Graziano, and thus needs an indefinite postponement of the title defense against Sugar Ray. *Wed 4-24-46*

In case you're a little on the cynical side today, the doctor who insists Servo's nose needs repair is a medico named Herbert Goldman, only by chance a nephew of Charlie Goldman, who also, quite by coincidence, is Marty Servo's trainer.



MARTY SERVO

This writer's schnozz is in tip-top shape, and maybe that's why he detects a slight smell in the air. **Could it be that Servo's manager, canny Al Weill, prefers to rake in lots more shekels before letting the welter king go against Robinson in what certainly shapes up as a defeat for the clean-cut kid from Schenectady? Could it be that Promoter Mike Jacobs is only slightly partial to Weill's sentiments, inasmuch as a May 24 match would have to go indoors, and that's not**

scrapper isn't in the best of physical condition, certainly the fight should not go on. This naturally holds as true for Marty Servo as it does for anyone else. If Marty needs medical treatment, if his breathing is impaired, as his handlers claim, nobody questions their right for a postponement. Boxing Commissioner Eddie Eagan, who's committed his share of faux pas since taking over the reins, seems to be acting in the right direction by demanding that Servo be examined by several nose specialists before a decision is rendered in regard to the bout. Let's hope that Eagan's specialists have more integrity than the current brand of commission doctors, who've had a long history of pulling a switch the other way—namely, by okaying fighters on the day of a match simply because a good gate was assured for the evening. In other words, Eagan should feel obligated to hire doctors who won't be influenced one way or another by Al Weill or Mike Jacobs.

Should it be determined that Servo justifiably can't go through with the title scrap, let the boxing commissioner guarantee that Marty's very first fight henceforth, whenever he's physically sound, be in the nature of a championship affair with Ray Robinson. None of that "indefinite postponement" stuff.

And now just a word about Servo himself. Marty is a fine kid, a nifty fighter, and a sportsman to the core. If Eagan's medicos don't deem him physically unfit, then the onus will rest on Al Weill and not Servo. Like most other fighters, Servo just does whatever his management advises. *Wed 4-24-46*

And poor Ray Robinson, only the greatest fighter, pound for pound, in action today, has to take this beating year in and year out from promoters and managers who refuse to give Ray a fight with any of the so-called headliners. This, in my estimation, is one of the great tragedies of boxing. A man who will surely go down in the books as one of the greatest of all time is forced to watch his best fighting years come and go without a chance to really capitalize on his tremendous talent.

It's time the vast boxing public stepped into the scene to give the boxing commission more than a little prodding.

ROBINSON FIGHTS FOR TITLE DEC. 21

The Times

State Commission and N. B. A to Recognize Winner of His Bout With Bell at Garden

New York, N.Y.
Sat. 10-5-46

The welterweight boxing championship tangle promises to be unraveled before the end of the year it became known yesterday, when Promoter Mike Jacobs announced that he had signed Ray Robinson, Harlem contender for the world crown, to oppose Tommy Bell of Youngstown, Ohio, in a 15-round bout at Madison Square Garden on Dec. 21.

Regarded as the uncrowned ruler of the 147-pound division for several years, Robinson was to have had his real chance at the crown against Marty Servo last month, but the Harlem fighter was denied the opportunity when Servo withdrew because of a broken nose. Later Servo, who had won the championship by stopping Freddie (Red) Cochran, gave up the title and it appeared that the way was wide open for Robinson to claim it.

According to the rules of the State Athletic Commission, though no fighter is able to move into a

...ey declined, the former
that he was not good
Robinson yet, and the
ng that he was more
with seeking to have the
recognize the junior
ht class, championship
claimed by Larkin.
ng Bell to fight Robin-
s has signed a sturdy
hter. The Youngstown
is a strong and clever
has impressed local fol-
He looked particularly

good against Jake La Motta, Bronx middleweight to whom he lost a decision two seasons back. La Motta, incidentally, is the only boxer ever to defeat Robinson.

The winner of the clash between Robinson and Bell will earn universal recognition as titleholder, for the National Boxing Association, as well as the New York board, regards the bout as for the world title.

63c

Walcott Wins in a Walk From 'Take-A-Walk' Oma

Afro American

Jersey Joe Scores Unanimous Decision in First Big Chance; Oma Sorry Plight

NEW YORK.—Jersey Joe Walcott crowned his first big Madison Square Garden try with glowing success as he won in a walk from Lee (Take a Walk) Oma, white Detroiter, in the main event of the Friday night boxing show.

Walcott entered the ring a 13 to 5 favorite in the betting and won like a 10 to 1 shot. Through no fault of Jersey Joe's, it was one of the worst exhibitions seen in the 8th Avenue fistic emporium since the Lee Q. Murray-Turkey Thompson affair of two years ago.

Down in First

Oma, spilled in the first minute of the fight, got up at the count of two and began retreating. Dropping his arms to his sides and walking away from his opponent, as is his style, Oma spent the better part of the 10 rounds keeping out of Walcott's reach. 6-1-46

Lee did not throw a right hand punch until the sixth round and it was the seventh before he took his first forward step.

The crowd began booing him as early as the third stanza and kept it up through the fourth, winding off the fifth and sixth in a rolling crescendo which grew as it spread over the building.

When in the seventh Oma finally moved toward his opponent, he was met by a hard straight right which set him back on his heels and made him grab Walcott to hold on.

Charged With Foul

A right to the body by Jersey Joe made Oma wince and drop his left arm in protection. Immediately, the Detroiter got a left hook to the body and a right cross to the unexposed side of his head.

Joe used the same trick again but Referee Johnny Burns suggested the blow was low and warned Walcott to lift his punches.

The ninth saw Oma stop momentarily midway of the round to mix things with Joe. However, when he got stung with a one-two to the head, Oma resumed his walking.

The tenth was easily the best round of the fight, Lee rallying mildly in the early stages as though he wanted to make a match of it. For his pains, however, Oma took several bruising right crosses and was plainly in trouble midway of the session. 6-1-46

Referee Burns gave Walcott nine rounds to Oma's one and Judge Harold Barnes duplicated this score. Judge Jack O'Sullivan credited Walcott with seven rounds and the AFRO score-card tallied: Walcott 10 rounds, Oma zero—even for effort.—(slacy).

Walcott Beats Oma Easily In 10 Round Drag

New York, New York
Amsterdam News 6-8-46

PHOTO ON BACK PAGE

Venerable Jersey Joe Walcott, the brown Cinderella Man from Camden, N. J., finally got his chance to show in Madison Square Garden last Friday night. But Joe might as well have stood in bed because the whole thing was snafued up by Lee Oma, the Detroit heavyweight who wouldn't fight, and who in losing the ten round decision, grabbed off most of the money. Thus, Jersey Joe, making his maiden debut on the big time after countless disappointments, finds himself almost in the same place he was before the fight because Oma saw to it that Walcott was not given a chance to display what he could do.

What there was to the fight was a round one right on the point of the chin that dumped the 192¾ pound Oma to the floor for the count of two. Oma had already started his bicycling maneuvers which he was to keep up for the entire evening and the surprise wallop was the only vaction for a yawn the crowd of 11,760 got for the $82,702 it paid to see the long-heralded show. Walcott, weighing 191½, found his money messed up because Oma's manager, Tex Sullivan, had pushed through a pre-fight squeeze play on the purse with Joe's pilot, Vic Marsillo, for the latter to pay the difference if Lee's 40% didn't come up to his guaranteed $35,000. Thus, it cost Walcott more than $10,000 of his own purse and in winning the fight, he came out with about $2,000.

Oma ran, ran and then ran some more as the patient Walcott plodded after him, his thinning hair looking grotesque under the arcs, trying desperately to make a fight of it and to quell the occasional boos that floated from the gallery gods as well as from the chorus of razzberry yells that swelled from the ground floor pews. Walcott battered Oma's ribs, threw rights to the jaw and hooked with his left, but most of them were in vain as Oma turned tail and ran like a rabbit.

Omelio Agramonte, 179, of Cuba, punched Henry Taylor, 185¼, of Philadelphia, at will to take the six round semi-final. The tall, sable Cuban moved around like a featherweight as Taylor gave an interesting prevue of what Oma would do in the main event, but Agramonte couldn't catch up with his man. Prentiss Hall, 166, Buffalo, beat Charley Hayes, 162, Detroit, in six.

—DAN BURLEY.

Jersey Joe beats Oma easily

Tribune

NEW YORK — Jersey Joe Walcott, southpaw breadwinner for a brood of six, from Camden, N. J., breezed through to an easy 10-round decision over Detroit's Lee Oma here at Madison Square Garden before 11,760 fans last Friday night. Sat. 6-1-46

Walcott dumped Oma in the first round in scoring his 11th straight win. Oma took a four-count after running into a right with his jaw early. There was no doubt from then on who would be the winner, and the victory earned Walcott an outdoor shot at Tami Maurielli in August. Maurielli knocked out Bruce Woodcock, of England, last week. Los Angeles, Calif.

Oma was given three rounds by judge Jack O'Sullivan; referee Johnny Burns and judge Harold Barnes gave him one round apiece, the eighth, which they penalized Walcott for two low blows.

Walcott, trim and supple, weighed 191½; Oma scaled 192, considerably above his usual fighting weight.

Reclaimed from the scrap heap two years ago, Walcott has fought his way right up to being popularly considered the second-rating U. S. heavyweight. On his way up, he has beaten Jimmy Bivins, Joe Baski, Lee Q. Murray, and has knocked out Curtis (Hatchetman) Sheppard.

Because he has been going great guns and because Oma was reported in doubtful condition, Walcott was a favorite with the bettors, and last minute New Jersey money boosted his price from 8-5 to 13-5. **There were rumors that Oma wouldn't be trying his best, but Col. Eddie Eagan, chairman of the New York Boxing commission, said he was satisfied with their performance, that it was too bad their styles were mutually awkward.** 6-1-46 Sat.

However, the house booed Oma in several rounds, especially for failing to ply his right hand as he customarily does.

—Cummiskey—

Life & Times Of Joisey Joe

PM New York, N.Y.

His right name is Arnold Cream and because he's chocolate-brown and icy-cool you now know why he changed his ring name to Jersey Joe Walcott: the pundits could never resist that one.

He is 190 pounds, about 5 feet 10, chunky-shouldered, 32 years old (and up). He is fighting Lee Oma in the Garden Friday night and maybe, at long last, they're going to stop laughing when he steps in there.

They laughed as far back as nine years ago when he was matched with Joe Lipps on the Braddock-Schmeling card at Long Island City Bowl which proved to be a phantom fight for everyone: it didn't come off.

And no longer than three years ago, when he left his shipyard job in Camden to take out a boxing license, the officials chuckled heartily again—and refused to grant him the papers, on the grounds that he long since had passed his prime.

Last year, when anyone who could stand up and had two arms could be billed as a heavyweight, he walked off his shipyard job and got back to the ring. He had then six children to feed. Any day now it'll be seven and it's quite appropriate that he's headlining a Garden bill so soon to Father's Day, 1946. Wed. 5-22-46

They matched him with Joe Baksi, who had been a Garden hit, and everybody laughed again. And said he was a lucky stiff when he punched out a unanimous decision. It was the same thing when he beat Lee Q. Murray and kayoed Curtis Sheppard. And even when he was matched with Jimmy Bivins, and a 5-to-1 underdog, 'they still couldn't believe it when he scored a startling victory over the No. 3 heavyweight in Cleveland.

It has taken Walcott all those years and plenty of headaches to make the grade in the Garden, but Friday he makes it and believe it or not the case-hardened mob along Broadway today had him a 6-5 choice over the dangle-armed Oma.

The mob around here hasn't seen him fight. He retired oftener than Harry Lauder and that was because his managers—and he had dozens of 'em—were out for the fast buck and the hell with Jersey Joe. In Vic Marsillo, a sort of a road company Milton Berle, JJ finally has a guy who is rating him along and isn't too hungry. Wed. 5-22-46

I saw Walcott beat Bivins in Cleveland and don't let anyone tell you it was a fluke. He had Jimmy on the deck and when Bivins, his dander up, tried to chop Joe down all he could do was hit where Joe had been and Walcott kept potting him the rest of the night.

Get it straight that the guy can hit and he's a mighty slick boxer. He's old, yes—but his number of fights is very small, which means he certainly hasn't been burned out.

And I'm not the only one who thinks so: Mauriello refused to fight him just two months ago, and not because he dislikes his looks.

—JOE CUMMISKEY

WALCOTT IS VICTOR BY KNOCKOUT IN 3D

Times New York, N.Y.

Stops Gomez in 1:21 of Round After Bell Saves Rival in Second at the Garden

Sat. 8-17-46

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Jersey Joe Walcott, Camden heavyweight, knocked out Tommy Gomez of Tampa, Fla., in the feature match listed for ten rounds at Madison Square Garden last night.

The bout ended in 1:21 of the third round. Gomez was down for a count of five when the bell saved him in the previous session.

A crowd of 11,000 was present. Frank Fullam was the referee and the judges were Frank Forbes and Joe Agnello. Walcott weighed 191¾, Gomez 182½.

Gomez missed with long lefts and rights in the first round, and Walcott landed with a left hook to the chin and a letf and right to the jaw to shake the Southerner.

In the eight-round semi-final, Tommy Yarosz, 165¼, Monaca, Pa., outpointed Joe Reddick, 163¾, of Paterson. Yarosz's excellent boxing and superior ring generalship earned him the honors.

Left Jab Effective

Yarosz stopped Reddick steadily with left jabs in the opening round, but Reddick returned a number of rights to the jaw. They traded lefts at long range in the second and, in close, bounced rights off each other's jaw.

Yarosz boxed ably in the third, keeping Reddick off with his fast left and crossing rights to the jaw as the Paterson fighter moved in.

Reddick advanced frequently through the fourth and shot several long rights to the body. But Yarosz avoided the heavier blows and in return reached Reddick with a number of solid rights to the jaw.

They mixed freely in the fifth, trading rights to the head. Reddick's punches were harder, but Yarosz landed more frequently.

Yarosz speared Reddick with a succession of rights and lefts to the jaw in the sixth, but the latter took the punches well and, near the end of the session, tagged the Pennsylvanian with two rights to the jaw. Sat 8-17-46

In the seventh Yarosz' boxing enabled him to score often. They traded in the final round, with the edge going to Yarosz.

Clarence Jones, 194½, of Buffalo punched his way to a decision over Jesse Lee, 172¾, of Long Island City in a six-round tussle.

In this corner

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

Jersey Joe Figures to Outpoint Oma

Fri. 5-24-46

By Bill Mardo

The story behind Jersey Joe Walcott is, in one respect, typical of the prize ring. But in another sense, it has a novel twist and surprise ending that hasn't been seen since Jimmy Braddock came out of nowhere to jab his way to the heavyweight title. Of course, Braddock was aided and abetted by the uninspired efforts of erratic Maxie Baer. And Walcott, on the other hand, is the latest Cinderella Man solely by dint of a latent fistic talent that finally came to the fore when the 32-year old Negro was given the first real opportunity to flash his stuff.

I've never seen Jersey Joe in action, but this much is certain. Anyone who licked Jimmy Bivins with the decisiveness Walcott displayed in Cleveland last February, must be one helluva scrapper. Bivins had justifiably been labelled the number three heavy, right behind Joe Louis and Billy Conn. King Joe said that Bivins was the finest heavy around during the war years, and expressed much admiration for Bivins' abilities.

So what happened three months ago? Nothing much, except that one Jersey Joe Walcott took Mister Bivins, dropped him to the canvas for a nine-count and handed the Cleveland topnotcher a very sound and one-sided thrashing. That's something Tami Mauriello was never able to do in two losing efforts against the Clevelander, and also a trick that no other heavyweight had accomplished in the past three years.

Fri. 5-24-46.

This writer has seen enough of Jimmy Bivins to go overboard for any man who's been able to defeat him. Which is another way of saying that, sight unseen, we're picking Jersey Joe Walcott to lick Lee Oma at the Garden tonight. We grant it may be rather foolish of us to make a selection on this one, considering that we can't recall having ever seen Walcott in the ring except for last Friday night, when Harry Balough introduced the ex-shipyard worker during the festivities prior to the Woodcock-Mauriello sluggeroo.

The Record Speaks

But on the basis of Walcott's record this past year, it does seem that he's the superior of Oma. What is Walcott's record? Well, at the age of 32 one Vic Marsilla argued him out of retirement, convincing Jersey Joe that he was sincerely interested in getting him a break—something that none of Walcott's other handlers ever gave a hoot about. For Walcott's history prior to his retirement was one of those oft-repeated stories of the ring. Fighting up and down the country for peanut purses and greedy managers. They say Walcott always had the stuff of which topnotch heavies are born, punching power, ring savvy and good boxing ability. But the men who used to handle the capable Negro battler were more interested in squeezing him dry than in putting up a real effort for him.

So there he was in a Camden shipyard last year, trying to eke out a living for his six kids. Earning a decent salary in this glorious society of ours, isn't an easy trick. Especially for a Negro. When Vic Marsilla convinced Walcott that with proper managing he could take the current crop of heavies, the 32-year old Negro decided to give it one more try. Marsilla got Walcott a match with Joe Baksi last summer. Walcott pounded out an easy victory. Several months later he went up against hard-hitting Lee Q. Murray, and again Jersey Joe's hand was raised in victory. Last December he made it three in a row by dumping capable Curtis Sheppard in the tenth round.

The rest of the story is now as well-known throughout the fight world as was brother Braddock's upset over Baer. Walcott was signed to meet Jimmy Bivins, and when the two men met in February, Walcott was a lopsided underdog. But he provided the upset of the year by handing a terrific lacing to the smooth-punching, shifty Bivins. And don't forget, that was the same Bivins who beat Bob Pastor twice and who has likewise made a monkey of Tami Mauriello on two occasions.

Oma Smells the $$

Fri. 5-24-46

Now Walcott has finally crashed through to the top. He's a Garden main-eventer and meets no pushover in the reformed Lee Oma. For Oma, while he fights like a clown with his hands-down and walk-me-around style, is nonetheless a very capable fisticuffer when he's in shape, and the former darling of the saloons has been very much in shape this past year. Lee is smelling big-money for the first time in his equally strange career, and the odor of lucre appeals to him much to nobody's surprise. And that's why Oma looked as good as he did against Gus Lesnevich three months ago. Not a knockout belter, Lee is a sharp cutting hitter and his counter-punching against the light-heavy champ was really something to see.

But Oma, in the best of shape, could never beat a fighter of Tami Mauriello's class, which isn't overly high, and certainly we can't for the life of us ever picture Lee Oma beating somebody like Jimmy Bivins. In short, the appealing crowd-pleaser is just a colorful and competent heavy who can be quite effective against a man who doesn't know how to take advantage of Oma's strolling tactics.

A hustling, aggressive hitter like Mauriello had no trouble with Oma the two times that Tami bothered to whip himself into shape. Certainly Jersey Joe Walcott, who they say is cleverer than Tami and just as good a socker, figures to outpoint Lee and maybe dump him one or twice over the route.

And that, my friends, is the way we see it going in the 49th Street House of Bash tonight.

But we could be wrong . . . it's happened before, y'know.

Maxim Defeats Jersey Joe In Big Upset Bout

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y. — Sat. 9-7-46

By LESLIE MATTHEWS

CAMDEN, N. J. Joe Maxim, 180 of Cleveland Ohio, won referee Paul Cavalier's decision over Jersey Joe Wolcott, 192 at the ball park before 10,000. It was an unpopular decision.

Wolcott in line for a crack at the heavyweight title on the strength of his past performances suffered two damaged hands during the fight. Wolcott starting very fast, jabbed to the body and landed several hard right hooks to the ribs in the first round. Maxim, a young fellow, was hurt several times in the first round but he was in good condition and stood up under the punching of the New Jersey heavyweight. Maxim, a good boxer, had no fear of Jersey Joe, moving from left to right, keeping his left out and outfighting the veteran or tying him up effectively, Wolcott, who could not hit the slippery chin of Maxim with solid rights, concentrated on the body. Several times Wolcott's hard right hooks to the body caused the Clevelander to gasp for air. In the fifth round Maxim sent several to the chin without return. In the sixth Jersey Joe opened a cut over the left eye of Kearn's heavyweight, and battered the visitor around the ring. Maxim out boxed Wolcott in the seventh and eighth rounds but Joe came back in the ninth and tenth: On the Amsterdam News score card Wolcott won the 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, and 10 while Maxim was given credit for the 3, 5, 7 and 8. The referee scored it 5-4 and 1 even.

Walcott Whips Gomez In 3d On T.K.O.

The Courier-Journal — Louisville, Ky. — Sat. 8-17-46

New York, Aug. 16 (U.P.)—Jersey Joe Walcott, a veteran with six children, spoiled the heavyweight hopes of young Tommy Gomez of Tampa, Fla., in Madison Square Garden tonight when he scored a technical knockout at 1:21 of the third round.

Slamming the Purple Heart hero to the canvas twice, once in the second round and again in the third just before Referee Frankie Fullam stopped the uneven contest, Walcott thus moved into position himself for a shot at Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis' title.

It was strictly no contest from the time that the Camden, N. J., Negro sent Gomez to the canvas for a count of five as the bell ended the second round. Walcott came out like a tiger in the third and poured a volley of leather at the 25-year-old Floridian which dumped him for a nine count.

When he arose, Gomez was practically out on his feet from the sizzling right hook which had flattened him. Walcott was on him again immediately, sending him reeling into the ropes, and Fullam stepped in to end it.

Holding a decided weight advantage, 191¾ pounds to Gomez' 182½, the ring-wise Walcott had too much experience for his rival.

A crowd of 11,657 paid $47,886 to see the show.

Jersey Joe Walcott Upset by Joey Maxim

The Afro-American — Baltimore, Md. — Sat. 9-7-46

Crowd Boos; Examination After Bout Shows Both Jersey Joe's Hands Hurt

CAMDEN, N.J. — Jersey Joe Walcott, father of six and hailed as a challenger for Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, suffered a 10-round upset at the hands of Joey Maxim here at the Camden Ball Park, Wednesday night.

Mingled boos and cheers greeted Referee Paul Cavalier's decision in favor of the Cleveland Italian-American. In New Jersey, no judges participate in fights, the referee being the sole judge of a bout.

He awarded Maxim five rounds, Jersey Joe three and called two even. Newspapermen, however, were stunned by the verdict. Most felt that Walcott had held the upper hand in six rounds with Maxim taking three and drawing in one.

Immediately after the bout, Manager Joe Webster asked the New Jersey State Athletic Commission to have a doctor examine Walcott's hands. He said Jersey Joe had injured them in the second round of the milling.

The commission doctor said that a preliminary examination indicated the Merchantville heavyweight had broken a small bone in his right hand and also that a knuckle of his left had been dislocated.

While the Maxim victory was a surprise to many, close followers of the ring pointed out that Walcott had shown that he is willing to meet anyone in his quest of a heavyweight title bout.

Walcott Has Won 5 of 6

The Afro-American — Baltimore, Md.

SUMMIT, N.J.—Jersey Joe Walcott, father of six kids and thrice retired from the ring, is at the threshhold of success as he awaits the Friday night clash with Elmer Ray at Madison Square Garden.

The winner has been virtually assured a shot at the heavyweight title held by Joe Louis. *Sat. 11-16-46*

Walcott fails to match the record of his hard-belting opponent insofar as quantity goes, but the quality of his victims in six victories for the year far surpasses that of the 14 men beaten to a pulp by Ray.

During the 1946 campaign, the clever Camden, N.J., shuffler has knocked out Johnny Allen, 3 rounds, at Camden; decisioned Jimmy Bivins, 10 rounds, at Cleveland; knocked out Al Blake, 4 rounds, at Camden; outpointed Lee Oma, 10 rounds, at Madison Square Garden, New York, and knocked out Tommy Gomez, 4 rounds, at the same place.

He lost a decision to Joey Maxim at Camden in his last essay.

Walcott 2-1 Over Ray Here Tonight

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Fri. 11-15-46

TOP HEAVYWEIGHT CONTENDERS MEET: LOUIS TO BE IDLE TILL JUNE

Jersey Joe Walcott was a 2-1 favorite tonight to beat Elmer (Violent) Ray in their important heavyweight contenders' elimination bout at Madison Square Garden. On

On the eve of this fight between the two outstanding Negro heavyweights, Mike Jacobs announced that champion Joe Louis would make no title defense until June and that the Walcott-Ray winner would be a finalist in the elimination to determine a challenger.

Because of their records and the significance of this 10-rounder, the bout was expected to attract approximately 17,000 fans.

Ray will enter the ring boasting a string of 47 straight victories, including 42 knockouts. But Walcott will be favored, for Jersey Joe hammered his way to prominence by beating opponents superior to Rays.

Walcott, of Camden, N. J., has been called the ring's "Cinderella Man" because he is the father of six children, and campaigned so brilliantly after being rated nowhere two years ago.

Jersey Joe conquered such top-flighters as Jimmy Bivins, Joe Baski, Curtis Sheppard, Lee Oma and Tommy Gomez. He beat Oma and knocked out Gomez at the Garden. A few weeks ago Walcott's record was marred when he dropped a decision to Joey Maxim of Cleveland. It was a widely disputed verdict.

Ray, now 29, had a spotty career until three years ago. Elmer's best wins were over Lee Savold, George Fitch, Larry Lane, Earl Lowman and Vern Escoe.

Ray, who originally came from a farm near Hastings, Fla., launched his career in southern "battles royals." He participated in 61 of those melees, meanwhile picking up his own fighting style. He is a club-fighter, who wades in and prefers to fight at close quarters. He is a terrific puncher but no one knows if he can take it on the chin.

Walcott is a faster, smarter boxer than Elmer, and he is an accurate explosive puncher. He is particularly dangerous as a counter-puncher.

They will weigh nearly the same. Ray expected to come in at 193 pounds and Walcott at 192.

Walcott, Oma Conqueror, Wants Louis-Conn Winner

By HASKELL COLE

NEW YORK CITY—There is still considerable doubt in the minds of the cognoscenti about Joe Walcott's fighting ability. Not, mind you, that Jersey Joe didn't win easily over Lee Oma last Friday night at the Garden. The fight mob was seeing the Jersey heavy for the first time and was forced to look on as Joe waltzed around the ring for ten rounds, chasing will 'o the wisp, Oma. 6-7-46

Oma elected to put on a stinkeroo of a bout, back-pedaling all the way, forcing Walcott, a counter puncher, to chase him. Joe nailed Lee early in the first heat for a three-count knockdown with a right to the jaw. The fans thought Joe was headed for an early kayo win. However, the colored battler, making his belated big time showing at the age of 32, failed to follow up his advantage and permitted Oma to escape.

After this forceful prelude Walcott played cagey and jabbed Oma silly. His powerhouse right beat a tattoo on the Detroiter's kidneys all the way but not until the ninth and tenth heats did he belabor the white fighter in serious fashion. Lee was done in at the end of the fight and barely weathered the last round, finishing with a cut on his left cheek.

Because the pre-fight odds favored Jersey Joe, 13-5, Commissioner Eddie Eagan visited Oma's dressing room to warn him to put on a good exhibition. Oma answered by putting on the poorest fight seen in the Garden in years. He showed a disinclination to mix with the old man of Jersey and seemed elated to weather the ten rounds standing on his two feet. Eagan appeared satisfied that both men tried hard. He was of the opinion that since they were both counter punchers the bout was a mismatch right from the beginning.

The railroad strike evidently held the crowd to 11,760, paying $82,702. Walcott was probably fighting to make good, since he took 60 per cent of the gate, guaranteeing Oma $35,000.

Walcott won every round but was deprived of the eighth by low blows. Only Judge Jack O'Sullivan scored more than one heat for Oma, giving him three. The "ref" and one judge chalked it up 9-1 for Walcott.

Oma said something about taking a Detroit automobile job. He should. His bad fight should wipe him off as a Garden favorite.

Walcott, now boasting eleven straight wins, is yammering for the Louis-Conn winner. He will get Tami Mauriello if that worthy wants to take a chance on the Jersey jolter's heavy hitting and clever footwork. At worst, Walcott deserves another Garden showing. It still takes two to make a fight. Walcott was willing, Oma said "nix."

Pittsburgh, Pa. Saturday 6-1-46 Sat.

Gomez No Match for Joe Walcott in Garden Bout

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-24-46

Former GI Stopped in Third as Jersey Battler Lands Crushing Rights At Will

By Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK—Packing dynamite in his right hand wallops, the never-aging Jersey Joe Walcott scored a technical kayo over the highly-touted Tommy Gomez, scarred white veteran of the war, in 1:21 of the third round at the Garden Friday night.

The outcome was never in doubt from the opening bell, when Gomez came out charging like a wild bull and sought to trade punches with his opponent. Joe slowed him down to a walk with sizzling rights and lefts to the jaw, and Tommy went back to his corner, his face as red as a beet.

The second round found a more cautious Gomez. He circled Joe and tried to stay away from those hammering rights, but it was to no avail. Toward the closing seconds. Walcott caught him with a smashing right to the jaw and he folded right in Walcott's corner. The timekeeper counted up to five, when the gong sounded, saving him from a knockout. Tommy was barely able to make his way across the ring to his own corner.

End of Tommy

Gomez came out for the third and final session with doom written all over his face. Smelling the kill, Jersey Joe waded in and threw lefts and rights to the head and body. While Tommy was backing away from the punishment, Walcott landed a long right flush on Tommy's head.

The blow caught him in mid-ring and knocked him sprawling half-way across the ring where he landed on his face. His body half out of the ring, Gomez attempted to rise and managed to regain his feet at the count of nine.

He got up dazed and bewildered, and turned his back on Joe as his befuddled mind propelled his wobbly legs toward his own corner. Walcott went after him and landed another looping right that knocked him into the ropes. As Gomez lay on the ropes helpless, Referee Frank Fullam pushed Walcott aside and halted the contest to save Gomez from further punishment.

Gomez Favorite

Tommy was assisted to his corner by his seconds, and didn't leave the ring until long after the victor was gone.

As usual, Gomez, the underdog in the b e t t i n g, was the crowd favorite. The fans, however, knew he was through as soon as he began trading blows with Jersey Joe. Had he stayed away from him and boxed, he might have lasted another round or two—not much more.

Uncle Mike Jacobs was ready to match Gomez with the winner of the Louis-Mauriello championship bout, should he have won. With Walcott winning, it makes it a horse of a different color. Elmer (Violent) Ray was introduced from the ringside and got a terrific hand. A Ray-Walcott match seems probable now.

Despite the rain, a crowd of 11,657 fans paid $47,886 to see the bout. Walcott weighed 191¾ to 182½ for Gomez.

Walcott Beaten Before 17,000

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 11-23-46

By WENDELL SMITH
Sports Editor

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.—"Elmer (Violent) Ray is going to win the heavyweight championship from Joe Louis!"

That was the mighty roar of sparkling-eyed Tommy O'Loughlin, the optimistic manager of the heavyweight division's latest No. 1 challenger, Friday night after his fighter from Hastings, Fla., had out-pointed creaking Jersey Joe Walcott in a ten-round fight at Madison Square Garden.

Perhaps the gentlemen of the press would have blurted out with a series of lusty laughs when O'Loughlin made that historic—but not necessarily true— declaration had it not been that he refused to give them a chance.

"Listen," the fast-talking manager of Violent Ray demanded, "we are going to fight Louis. Not only that, but we are going to take the title from him. We have the greatest respect for Joe, but he's through now. Elmer is the best fighter in the world today."

Thus, in the crowded dressing room of the victorious fighter of the evening, Tommy O'Loughlin did notify all and sundry that the man who can beat Joe Louis has finally arrived. The man they've been looking for the past ten years is on the scene and ready for action. He is a husky slow-talking bronze colored gladiator who used to wrestle alligators down in the infested swamps of Florida to pass away the time of day. He says he is 29 years of age and according to the scales weighs 191¼.

More than 17,000 fans saw Elmer make his "big time" debut in the Gardens Friday night and watched him as he out-pointed a slow-moving, extremely cautious father of six children who acted at times as though he wished he were at home with them.

The only one who didn't seem to be convinced that Elmer had given Jersey Joe a pasting, was Judge Frank Forbes, a very capable arbiter who, for some reason, cast his vote for Walcott. Referee Johnny Burns and the other judge, Joe Agnello, cast their votes for Elmer.

Even the disheartened loser agreed that he had lost. He was an overwhelming favorite to win the fight, but when it ended admitted to one and all that—"I just didn't have it tonight. I don't know why I couldn't get going. I coudln't seem to do anything I wanted to do."

SAYS RAY'S A BUM

But, despite the fact that he lost Walcott wasn't impressed with the ability of the man who beat him Asked what he thought about Ray's fistic artistry, the swollen-faced, big-shouldered guy from Jersey, said: "Why, that fellow can't fight. He can't do anything well. He's just a bum!" 11-23-46

Whether Mr. Ray is a bum is a matter of conjecture. He did a thorough job on Walcott and according to our record sheet won eight of the ten rounds. He out-punched and out-gamed Jersey Joe from the second round through the eighth. At no time was Ray in trouble and he stayed out in front once he got going.

The capacity throng for this affair can be attributed to Ray's

Honored

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. **HERB TRAWYCK,** *11-16-46* **former Kentucky State line star, who last week was nominated by his white teammates on the Montreal Alouettes (pro football team) for the Jeff Russel trophy, awarded each year to the top all-round performer in Canadian football. He is the first player of his race ever to be thus honored.**

PM New York, N.Y. *Fri. 12-6-46*

Judged the outstanding football player in New England in 1946, Levi Jackson, Yale's great Negro gridder, here receives the George Bulger Lowe trophy. Presenting it is Arthur Berry, Gridiron Club head. At left is Dan O'Connor, once A. A. tackle.

Michigan's Len Ford Chosen Member Of Tom Harmon's 1946 All-American

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Michigan's right end, Len Ford, has been nominated for membership on the 1946 All American squad picked by Tom Harmon, 1940 team captain and winner of every important football award.

Harmon, who was known as "Old 98—the Michigan Meteor" during his university days, said he picked the lone Negro nominee for inclusion on his 1946 team because "he was the answer to a passer's prayer." *Fri. 12-20-46*

"Hands like a ham, he seldom dropped anything that came even close to him," Harmon pointed out. "On defense, Ford practically always took the interference and also stopped the ball carrier."

The All-American team selections are scheduled to appear in person on Harmon's "Here Comes Harmon" series aired by local stations nationwide. Date, time, and station have not yet been announced, but it is said that the feature will be presented within the next two weeks.

Others elected to Harmon's team are: Burr Baldwin, UCLA, left end; Plato Andros, Oklahoma, left tackle; Weldon Humble, Rice, left guard; George Strohmeyer, Notre Dame, center; Fritz Barzilauskas, Yale, right guard; George Connor, Notre Dame, right tackle; Len Ford, Michigan, right end; John Lujack, Notre Dame, quarterback; Glenn Davis, Army, left halfback; Charley Trippi, Georgia, fullback; Arnold Tucker, Army, right halfback.

Motley named to All-Star AAC eleven

The Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.

CLEVELAND — Marion Motley, line-busting fullback of the Cleveland Browns, was named this week by sportswriters to the All-Star team of the year-old All-America Conference pro football league.

Motley, former captain of Nevada U's eleven and last year's sensation of the Great Lakes team that romped over Notre Dame's Irish 39-7, followed his former prep coach, Paul Brown, to Great Lakes and then to the Cleveland Browns. This was his first season in pro football and on and off during it, he lead the league in ground gained by rushing.

Former All-American (Ohio state) Big Bill Willis was Motley's teammate, sharing honors with him as the first Negro to play in the new league. Willis saw little action because of injuries, but Motley played first-string fullback in every game, except those scheduled with Miami, the sadsisters of the league. He got more national acclaim than either Kenny Washington or Woody Strode, the two ex-UCLA stars, who were hired earlier in the year by the National Pro League's Los Angeles Rams. Neither of them won a regular berth. *Sat. 12-21-46*

Outstanding Football Star Receives Schneer's Award

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Alexander Shephard, guard on the Morris Brown College football team was the annual Schneer's Award—a beautiful 17-jewel Shock-resisting Benrus Wrist Watch, as the outstanding player in the three game series between Clark, Morehouse and Morris Brown Colleges for the city championship.

The award was made by George Kanter, manager of Schneer's Jewelry Store, Atlanta's leading credit jewelers, of 48 Whitehall Street, on Thursday morning, during the regular chapel services at Morris Brown College. *Fri. 1-10-47*

The announcement of the winner of the coveted award was made Saturday, when a three-man board unanimously selected Mr. Shephard as the most consistent player in the city championship series.

SECOND LINEMAN

This marked the second straight year that a lineman has won the award. Richard Bolton, of Clark College, also a guard was the winner of the **1945** award. In addition to Mr. Bolton, previous winners included: John "Twinkle-Toes" Braxton, John "Big Train" Moody, "Bullet" Joe Mitchell, all of Morris Brown College and Ernest "Hunky" White of Clark College.

Mr. Shephard is a native of Montclair, N. J., and before the war was one of the famous "Gold Dust Twins" at Morris Brown. He was twice selected on both the mythical all-American and all-SIAC elevens, and on Thanksgiving Day (1946) split the up-rights with a field goal to give the Purple Wolverines, a 3-0 victory of the Clark College Panthers. During the war, Mr. Shephard saw service in the Pacific Theater of Operations with the United States Army Air Corps.

Albert Williams, brilliant end and captain of the Morehouse College Maroon Tigers and Johnnie Colquitt, of Clark College were also considered for the 1945 award.

63d 1946 General

Gene Derricotte Sparks Win Over Michigan State

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 11-16-46

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—(NNPA)—Gene Derricotte, a back, was one of eight Wolverines to score touchdowns to give Michigan a 55-to-7 win over Michigan State here Saturday.

Horace Smith, Michigan State halfback, saved his team from a shutout. In the third period he tossed a southpaw pass to Fullback Frank Waters, who caught the ball on the Michigan 40-yard line and went all the way. The play was good for 77 yards.

Len Ford, Wolverine end, accounted for Michigan's first extra point on an unusual play. Jim Brieske, Wolverine kicking specialist, had his placement try blocked by Center Bob McCurry of State. The ball bounced to one side, Robinson of Michigan scooped it up and tossed to Ford who fell across the State goal line for the extra point.

One Michigan touchdown was set up when the Wolverines moved 64 yards to the State two-yard line on a forward lateral involving Bob Chappius, a back, Bob Mann, an end, and Paul White, a back.

Derricotte made his touchdown from the State three-yard stripe over the defensive left guard. In the third period a pass from Derricotte to White produced a touchdown.

FEAR 'M' STATE BOWED TO BIAS IN DIXIE GAMES

The Mich. Chronicle Detroit, Mich Sat. 11-9-46

Michigan State College officials were unavailable for a statement concerning the case of Horace Smith, Negro freshman backfield star, who was left behind by Coach Charles Bachman when the team journeyed to Lexington, Ky., for a game with the University of Kentucky last week.

Smith, the only Negro on the grid squad, was not included among the players listed to make the trip although he is the number two right halfback. When reporters inquired as to why Smith was left behind, they were told that the star was suffering with "bruised ribs."

Second Time

A similar explanation was offered for the failure of the ex-Jackson High prep sensation to play against Mississippi State when the Maroons [illegible] Spartans several weeks [illegible] at East Lansing. Smith returned the following week to play brilliantly against Penn State.

No mention of injuries to Smith were made following the Cincinnati game which immediately preceded the Kentucky game.

See "Policy" Involved

The Mich. Chronicle

Most followers of the game, however, have adopted a "Tongue In Cheek" attitude concerning the matter—believing that Smith was not allowed to play against either of the two southern schools because of the prevailing policy which forbids inter-racial athletic competition. However, the fact that Smith was not allowed to play against Mississippi State in East Lansing has yet to be explained.

The University of Nevada took a more firm stand in its attitude toward Mississippi State, when that school told Nevada U. officials that the two Negro players on the team could not play in Starkville, Miss.

Called Off

Detroit, Mich.

The Athletic Board then voted unanimously to cancel the contest. The players in question are Horace Gillon, an end who is being groomed for possible All-American honors and halfback William Bass, former Tennessee State and Kentucky State grid star.

Smith will play at left halfback this week against the University if Michigan at Ann Arbor in the absence of Russ Reader, ace back who has been lost through injuries. The nature of Reader's injuries were not disclosed. *Sat. 11-9-46*

Penn. State Acts

Meanwhile at State College, Pa., Penn. State College canceled its Nov. 29 football game with the University of Miami, protesting the Florida institution's demand that two Negroes on Penn. State's team not be allowed to play.

Dr. Carl P. Schott, dean of physical education, said that the action was in keeping with "the policy of the college to compete only under circumstances which will permit the playing of any or all members of its athletic teams."

Miami officials are reported to have said that "it would be difficult to carry out arrangements for the game if Penn. State played the two Negroes." The men involved are Wallace Triplett and Dennie Hoggard, both of Philadelphia.

Negroes to have a go at fame from Harvard to NYU

The Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.

NEW YORK—Along the Atlantic Seaboard from Harvard to NYU, Negro football players may be the feature attractions on the gridirons this season. Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, NYU, and maybe Princeton even, have latched onto some outstanding Negro talent, and may make the most of it for glory and boxoffice.

At old Eli, freshman Levi Jackson, a sensational Connecticut prepster, is already being compared to the immortal Eli—or Albie Booth. He can run, pass, and kick with the best, say the Bulldogs. *Sat. 9-21-46*

Almost for the first time in memory Harvard and Yale will have Negro players at the same time. For Harvard, 200-pound tackle Chet Pierce will be doing a repeat performance as a holdover first-stringer. Between football seasons Pierce plays baseball for the Crimsons.

At Hanover, Mass., Dartmouth's Big Greens will be anchored by fighting center Fritz Alexander, who cut a fine figure on the circuit last year, Dartmouth is coached by Tuss McLaughry, ex-Brown mentor, who always had a place on his teams for a Negro.

Southern Wins Negro College Title

Daily Worker

DALLAS, Tex., Dec. (UP).—Southern University of Baton Rouge, La., trampled Tuskegee Institute 64-7 in the first annual Yam Bowl game today to annex the mythical Negro Football championship of Dixie.

Crowd of more than 15,000 jammed Dal-Hi Stadium to watch Southern, Southwestern Conference Champion, surprise Tuskegee, southeast Negro grid champion.

New York, N.Y. Fri. 12-27-46

Tuskegee had lost only one game in 11 starts before today's game, while Southern had won eight, dropped two and tied another.

Abbott thinks AFCA is best judge of All-Americana

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif. Sat. 11-30-46

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — The All-American squad to be selected at the end of the 1946 season by the American Football Coaches Association for the second year will be the "most foolproof, truly representative all-star array ever to be devised," Coach Aobtt, of Tuskegee Institute, said today.

With a membership of 475, including practically every college coach in the country, and a tight system of weekly balloting, the Association comes pretty near being the one and only jury to rule on which 11 pigskinners are the best in the U. S.

Coach Abbott pointed out that under the scheme outstanding players on small colleges have a fair chance with the stars of the big name elevens. "Every player in the country is seen by several coaches during the season, and no great player stands a chance of being overlooked," he said.

Because final selections for the All-American lineups are not submitted until virtually the close of the season, Abbott said that a "particularly important consideration in obtaining a true picture was being taken into account, since many a star is made or broken in season-end battles between traditional rivals."

"The final selections as announced in The Saturday Evening Post in December will represent the consensus of a nationwide group of qualified experts," he said. "We coaches feel that here, at last, is a real All-Amreican team which can best honor the country's football great."

All-America Boosts Pour in for Nevada's Negro End

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

Nevada's Negro end Horace Gillom is being enthusiastically plugged for All-American honors by veteran West Coast scribes and coaches.

"Gillom is the greatest end I ever saw in a football suit," says Phil Daugherty of the Santa Clara coaching staff. A comment typical of the widespread raves for Nevada U.'s pass-snaring, hard-kicking star. Student and community support for Gillom and Negro halfback Bill Bass recently forced Nevada officials to cancel a Jimcrow game with Mississippi State. For Bass is Nevada's biggest ground gainer and Gillom, the All-America candidate, tops the country's college booters. *Wed. 12-4-46*

Gillom, who hails from Massilon, Ohio (home of Paul Brown, coach of the non-Jimcrow pro Cleveland Browns) seems a leadpipe cinch for Double-A honors on the West Coast. But Pacific observers are also claiming national All-American consideration for Gillom. Here are a few of the plugs for the Negro end who bids fair to follow in the footsteps of Paul Robeson and Brud Holland.

Jim Phelan, St. Mary's coach: "Gillom is a great all-around performer."

Dick Friendlich, San Francisco Chronicle: "Gillom is probably the finest pass-catcher in college ranks, since it is impossible to conceive of anyone surpassing him in that department."

Prescott Sullivan, San Francisco Examiner: "Best end seen here all year is a colored player by the name of Horace Gillom."

Robert Bennyhoff, United Press: "Horace Gillom will certainly gain All-Coast honors and press a lot of 'star' players for All-America nomination when the season ends." *12-4-46*

Bob Marcus, San Francisco Chronicle: "Gillom has the grace of a toe dancer hauling down passes."

Mal Elward, ex-Purdue coach now at Stanford: "Gillom is the finest offensive end I've ever seen."

Clipper Smith, University of San Francisco coach: "Gillom is good enough to play on ANY ball club."

Sounds like a fair-to-middlin' footballer, does Horace Gillom. As those All-America selectors must now be aware of.

All-Southern Conference Football Selections

Defender Chicago, Ill. 12-2?-46

ATLANTA—The Southern Conference selection committee, meeting here Saturday, Dec. 14, named the following players on the first and second teams:

FIRST TEAM

Nathaniel Powell	End	Florida
James Holmes	Tackle	Morris Brown
John Jackson	Guard	Clark
Raymond Hill	Center	Benedict
Alexander Shepherd	Guard	Morris Brown
William Brewington	Tackle	Florida
Eugene Porter	End	Tuskegee
William Battles	Quarterback	Lane
Whitney Van Cleve	Back	Tuskegee
Henry Bowman	Back	South Carolina State
Evan Gilmore	Back	Benedict

SECOND TEAM

William Roberts	End	South Carolina
Marion Harrison	Tackle	South Carolina
Andrew Belle	Guard	Tuskegee
Forest McKinney	Center	Florida
Lawrence Pressley	Guard	Alabama State
William Wysinger	Tackle	Morris Brown
Jeffrey Jennings	End	Clark
Robert Moore	Quarterback	Tuskegee
Defoy Arnold	Back	Morris Brown
Jack Gilmore	Back	Lane
Theodore Montgomery	Back	Florida

MRS. BESSIE KEAN
. . . Tenn. A. and I.

MRS. CLEVE ABBOTT
. . . Tuskegee Ins

WIVES OF WELL KNOWN FOOTBALL COACHES—Nine wives of well known gridiron coaches were interviewed by The Courier's A. M. Rivera Jr. What they said is printed below. What they look like is here for you to view with pleasure. Left to right: Mrs. Verdella Mumford, Southern University, Scottlandville, La.; Mrs. Della E. Long, Wiley College, Texas; Mrs. Beatrice Hunt, Morgan College, Md.; Mrs. L. B. Nicks, Prairie View College, Texas; Mrs. Harry R. Jefferson, Virginia State, Va.; Mrs. Harriette Lee Bell, A. and T., N. C., and Mrs. Sam Taylor, Union University, Va.

Wives of Football Mentors Are Acclaimed for Role They Play Behind the Scenes at Home

Sat. 12-30-46

By A. M. RIVERA JR.

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

With the first tint of fall, thousands of alumnae, students, sports writers and sports lovers turn their faces toward the stadia of the Nation, in preparation of the annual coronation of King Football.

Throughout the evolution of the game, players, coaches and staffs have been publicly canonized and crucified, but almost completely forgotten have been the wives of the coaches.

To part the curtain on this unpublicized group, wives of nine men, who have been successful coaches over ten years or more, were questioned.

HEARTS A'TUNED

With their hearts tuned to the emotions of their husbands and the players, these women have contributed more than 150 years of their lives to football.

Each has an epochal story, but I think Mrs. Cleve Abbott, wife of the Tuskegee mentor, aptly states the case of women who will not be called "football widows," when she said, "I would rather wear out than rust out."

Football is an obsession with Mrs. Beatrice Hurt who has no children (by birth,) but for the past quarter of a century she has adopted all of the boys who have come under her husband's instruction at Morgan. Her home is an infirmary for the injured, a retreat for the lonely, a haven for the hungry and a shrine to the graduates.

The most heavy hearted war mother was Mrs. Hurt the day twenty-eight of her "sons" were drafted into the service. During their entire stay in the service she remembered each birthday with a cake and wrote an average of 150 letters weekly to her "Bears."

TWO KILLED

Two of the group were killed, Robert Smith, basketball player and Carl Chavis, football player. "Mon Hurt" received a letter from Chavis written just two days before he was killed in which he said that he would be running with the Bears each Saturday wherever they were. This season has been dedicated to him and the boys are desperately trying to make it a championship year.

Mrs. Henry A. Kean, Tennessee State, said that in the course of eighteen years of football, that she has acquired a pretty fair knowledge of the game but that her husband never asks her for her opinion, "but I'm afraid he has to listen often, though I know he is paying little attention to my advice," she said.

She is the mother of two children, a boy 12 and a girl 7.

Coach and Mrs. Sam Taylor epitomize the expression, "pulling in double harness." For 19 years she has attended football and track practices. During track season she actually "clocks" for her husband.

Mrs. Taylor said that a football team was made up of many types of individuals, but all types are hungry all the time!

WIFE IS GUINEA PIG

Another wife who follows the team and her husband on scouting trips is Mrs. Fred Long of Wiley College. She said she is often his giunea pig.

A familiar figure about the sports arena is Mrs. Cleve Abbott who is at home as a spectator and as a player. Since she changed her name twenty-nine years ago, she numbers among her many accomplishments, motherhood. Through the years, Tuskegee has won national championships in all the major sports, yet her most gratifying experience came with the announcement that her husband had been selected to serve the United States Olympic Track and Field Games Committee for the 1948 Olympics in London.

Mrs. L. B. Nicks, wife of W. J. Nicks, who first attracted national attention as coach at Morris Brown, doesn't let her three children hinder her from turning in a scouting report to her husband. She admitted that her husband did not ask her advice either, on matters of football, but she said, "I tell him the mistakes of each player after the game just the same.

DOESN'T WANT SON TO COACH

Mrs. Verdelle Mumford, wife of A. W. Mumford of Southern U., was adamant in her conviction that she did not want her son to coach. She remembered the winning of the national championship over Alabama in 1935 by a Texas College team, coached by her husband as her most gratifying experience.

Mrs. Harriette L. Bell still glows when she talks about the 9-7 victory her hubby, Bill, won over Kentucky State in 1938 to win national honor and the 2-0 win over Morgan by his TAAF team in 1944.

The youngest wife, at least the latest to marry into the coaching fraternity, is Mrs. Harry R. Jefferson who hasn't celebrated her wooden anniversary yet.

Harmon Names Lenny Ford On His Team

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 12-21-46

CHICAGO—(ANP) — Michigan's right end, Len Ford, has been nominated for membership on the 1946 All-American squad picked by Tom Harmon, 1940 team captain and winner of every important football award.

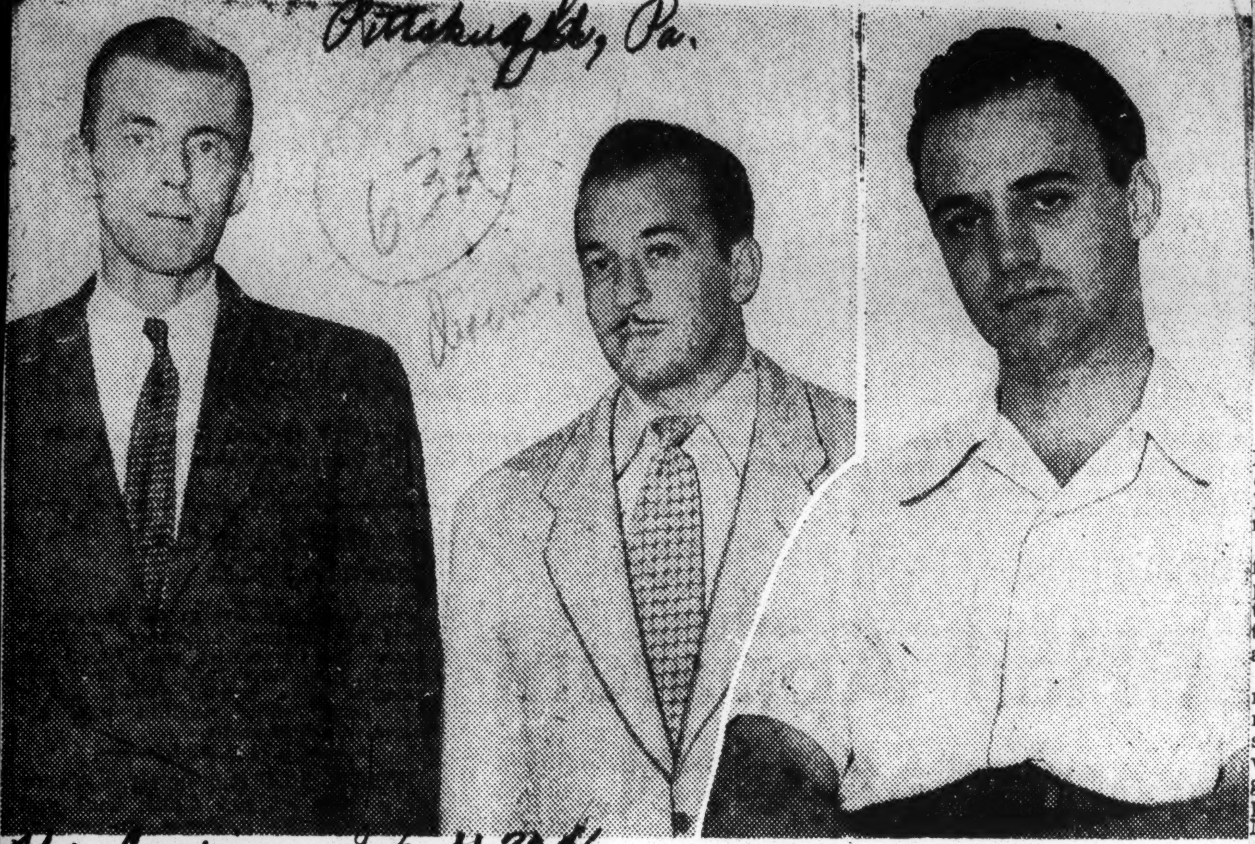
Harmon, who was known as "Old 98—the Michigan Meteor" during his university days, said he picked the lone Negro nominee for inclusion on his 1946 team because "he was the answer to a passer's prayers."

"Hands like a ham, he seldom dropped anything that came even close to him," Harmon pointed out. "On defense, Ford practically always took the interference and also stopped the ball carrier."

The All-American team selections are scheduled to appear in person on Harmon's "Here Comes Harmon" series, aired by local stations nation-wide. Date, time and station have not yet been announced, but it is said that the feature will be presented within the next two weeks.

Others elected to Harmon's team are: Burr Baldwin, UCLA, left end; Plato Andros, Oklahoma, left tackle; Weldon Humble, Rice, left guard; George Strohmeyer, Notre Dame, center; Fritz Barzilauska, Yale, right guard; George Connor, Notre Dame, right tackle; Len Ford, Michigan, right end; John Lujack, Notre Dame, quarterback; Glenn Davis, Army, left halfback; Charles Trippi, Georgia, fullback; Arnold Tucker, Army, right halfback.

Pittsburgh, Pa.



The Courier Sat. 11-30-46

PROTEST MIAMI RACE BAN—These are the faculty members of the University of Miami who protested after the school brought about cancellation of a football game with Penn State because of Negro members on the latter's team. In photo at left are Winchester H. Heicher (left), professor of government and Daniel Monaco, an instructor of government, who tore up their tickets and sent a protesting letter to the university president. Photo at right shows James W. Hoffman. He resigned his teaching position at the Miami school and quit the editorship of a magazine after school officials took steps to keep the magazine from printing Hoffman's article which criticized the University of Miami for objecting to Negro football players.—Diaz Photos. 11-30-46

Two Other Professors Protest

Miami University Instructor Quits Post Over Race Issue

The Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 11-30-46

By JOHN A. DIAZ, Florida Bureau

MIAMI, Fla.—James W. Hoffman last Monday resigned his position as English instructor at the University of Miami and the managing editorship of The Week, a widely circulated Miami weekly, in protest over the cancellation of the football game between the University of Miami and Penn State, and because, he charged, the editor of The Week refused to publish an article in which he intended to criticize the university for cancelling the game.

After a lengthy interview with the Miami representative of The Pittsburgh Courier at his palatial residence in Miami Beach, Mr. Hoffman wrote the following statement exclusively for The Courier:

"Although I appreciate the fact that this issue has been played up as a breach of academic free-

PHOTOS ON PAGE 4

dom—because of the fact that pressure was brought against a magazine for which I wrote by the University of Miami — the real, the main, the paramount issue is one of social opportunity.

TRADITIONS CHANGE

"In my opinion, a man, if he is personally capable, should be allowed to teach school, build houses, work in factories, or play football on an equal basis with other men, whether his skin be yellow, white, black, or polka-dot.

"Those who want to halt this process of equalization hide behind the convenient verbal fence of tradition. But traditions change, and so do people. And the ones who don't or won't realize this are ostriches, with their heads in the Miami sands."

Boys' Town Team Bows To Dixie

The Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 11-30-46

MIAMI—Bowing to and acquiescing Southern race prejudice and color discrimination, Right Rev. Msgr. E. J. Flanagan, director of Boys' Town in Nebraska, brought

PHOTO ON PAGE 12

his football team to Miami to play Sts. Peter and Paul's team at the Orange Bowl Tuesday night, without the two Negro stars on the Boys' Town's team playing.

The two stars involved in the controversy are Jake Williams, the left end and Tom Carodine, quarterback. Both of these players accompanied their team here, with the understanding that they would not be permitted to play because Father Flanagan had been informed by the Miami school that his Negro members of the team could not play on a white team in Miami.

The colored boys were separated from their team mates at the Airport after their arrival and taken to a colored family's home, while the others were accommodated in a swank hotel on Miami Beach.

B. W. Reed, public relations director, begged The Courier's representative not to publish this story, but refused to have the white boys pose with the two Negro boys when the white boys were practicing in Flamingo Park on Miami Beach Friday morning.

HAS ATTITUDE CHANGED?

Friends who had followed the attitude of Boys' Town on other occasions were surprised by the stand taken by the team's management. Especially so in view of the fact that Father Flanagan reportedly told the "Crackers" in Washington and Baltimore that his teams would not play there any more until they straightened out the segregation in the hotels which houses his teams.

Last year, in order to provide housing, his colored players were sent to private homes and he told them that he had a team and that it was necessary that his boys be kept together at all times. 11-30-46

Negro Listed As Possible Cal Grid Coach

The Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky. Thurs. 12-19-46

Berkeley, Cal., Dec. 18 (U.P.)—A new entry in the University of California coaching derby hit the headlines today with the nomination of Walter A. Gordon, famous Negro player, scout and coach for the Bears in by-gone days.

Gordon, current chairman of the California Adult Authority, was proposed to A.S.U.C. President Ed Welch by Harry Kingman, general secretary of the University Y.M.C.A. Said Kingman:

"Gordon's thorough knowledge of football and his ability to coach successfully are well known to Californians. He potentially is one of the greatest coaches in the game."

Gene Derricotte Sparks Win Over Michigan State

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—(NNPA)—Gene Derricotte, a back, was one of eight Wolverines to score touchdowns to give Michigan a 55-to-7 win over Michigan State here Saturday. Sat. 11-16-46

Horace Smith, Michigan State halfback, saved his team from a shutout. In the third period he tossed a southpaw pass to Fullback Frank Waters, who caught the ball on the Michigan 40-yard line and went all the way. The play was good for 77 yards.

Len Ford, Wolverine end, accounted for Michigan's first extra point on an unusual play. Jim Brieske, Wolverine kicking specialist, had his placement try blocked by Center Bob McCurry of State. The ball bounced to one side, Robinson of Michigan scooped it up and tossed to Ford who fell across the State goal line for the extra point.

One Michigan touchdown was set up when the Wolverines moved 64 yards to the State two-yard line on a forward lateral involving Bob Chappius, a back, Bob Mann, an end, and Paul White, a back.

Derricotte made his touchdown from the State three-yard stripe over the defensive left guard. In the third period a pass from Derricotte to White produced a touchdown.

The Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

COULDN'T PLAY IN MIAMI—Father E. J. Flanagan's Boys Town football team of Nebraska arrived in Miami, Fla., last week, to play the gridiron aggregation of Saints Peter and Paul in the Orange Bowl, but the two colored stars shown here didn't play because of Dixie race prejudice. Many wondered why Father Flanagan permitted his team to play after the Negro players had been barred. The colored stars, Tom Carodine (left), 17, quarterback, and Jake Williams (second from right), 17, left end, served as equipment men during the game. Others in the picture are Coach Maurice (Skip) Palrang (second from left), and W. B. Reed, Boys Town public relations director. Reed refused to pose white members of the team for the Courier photographer.—Diaz Photo. Sat. 11-30-46

Season's Records of Major College Elevens

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 12-14-46

Arranged in Alphab etical Order for Easier Reading

A. & T.		
51	Paratroops	0
13	Shaw	14
0	Hampton	12
17	N.C. State	0
19	West Va.	6
7	Morgan	12
49	Sub Base	13
7	Va. State	14
6	Smith	2
169		73

ALA. A. & M.		
19	Alcorn	0
0	Benedict	13
13	Knoxville	13
0	S.C. State	26
0	Lane	28
6	Lemoyne	0
14	Ala. S. Trs.	15
40.	Ft. Valley	0
92		95

ALLEN		
6	Va. State	12
9	Morris B.	13
19	Paine	0
12	Fla. Nor.	6
14	Benedict	0
7	Beth.-Cook.	6
60	Ga. State	0
7	Howard	0
71	Claflin	0
205		37

ALA. STATE		
12	Miles Col.	0
0	Fla. A.-M.	35
6	Clark	20
0	Lane	20
0	Morehouse	0
12	Knoxville	7
15	Ala. A.-M.	14
25	Ft. Valley	6
14	Tuskegee	26
84		128

ARK. STATE		
13	Tillotson	0
7	Wiley	32
0	Tex. Col.	26
9	Southern	7
7	Prairie V.	7
7	La. Normal	6
13	S. Huston	0
25	Langston	0
13	Lincoln, Mo.	7
28	Phil. Smith	0
122		85

BENEDICT		
19	Ft. Jackson	0
13	Ala. A.&M.	0
41	Living.	0
20	Morris B.	7
10	Morehouse	6
12	Xavier	34
0	Bethune	19
0	Allen	14
27	Ft. Valley	6
0	S.C. State	22
142		108

BISHOP		
0	Houston	6
57	Jarvis	0
7	Sam Huston	7
7	Grambling	19
47	Tillotson	0
0	Xavier U.	9
56	Phil. S.	0
21	Leland	6
195		47

BLUEFIELD		
0	Howard	13
0	N.C. State	19
8	Shaw	7
12	N.C. Trs.	7
48	St. Paul	0
6	West. Va.	7
6	Morgan	15
0	Union	0
20	Morristown	0
100		68

DEL. STATE		
6	N.C. State	32
6	Morgan	22
6	Lincoln	19
43	Pr. Anne	7
0	Hampton	12
19	Howard	7
12	N.C. Trs.	6
92		111

FAYETTEVILLE		
0	Shaw	25
6	Living.	0
14	St. Paul	0
20	Pr. Anne	6
13	Norfolk U.	0
6	St. Aug.	0
7	Eliza. City	25
14	Cheyney	6
24	Living.	0
104		62

FLA. A. & M.		
14	Wilb'force	22
35	Ala. State	0
7	Morris B.	0
27	Knoxville	0
6	Ky. State	14
21	Tuskegee	12
32	Clark	0
19	Southern	38
18	Fisk	0
14	Lin. (Pa.)	20
193		106

FLA. NORMAL		
7	Ft. Ben.	12
64	Friendship	0
7	Allen	12
54	Morris B.	0
23	Claflin	0
101	Albany S.	0
47	Jack. N. S.	0
7	Beth.-Ck.	7
310		31

FISK		
12	Miles M.	0
0	Knoxville	6
0	Tuskegee	13
6	LeMoyne	6
19	Phil Smith	6
12	Dillard	0
0	Louisv'e M.	6
0	Fla. A.&M.	18
49		55

HAMPTON		
33	Smith	0
12	A. & T.	0
9	Va. State	14
12	Del. State	0
7	Lincoln	10
6	Howard	9
0	Morgan	20
18	Union	0
97		53

HOWARD		
13	Bluefield	0
13	West Va.	21
19	Union	13
12	Smith	6
7	Del. State	19
9	Hampton	6
0	Allen	7
7	Lincoln	6
80		68

JACKSON COLL.		
22	Rust	6
2	Miss. Coll.	13
0	Miles Mem.	33
6	Alcorn	0
7	Dillard	13
13	Phil. Smith	6
24	Campbell C.	0
0	Tougaloo	0
74		71

KY. STATE		
7	A. & T.	0
25	N.C. Trs.	6
37	Lock. Army	6
0	Lin. (Mo.)	7
14	Tex. Coll.	25
6	Fla. A.&M.	6
13	Morris B.	0
6	Wilb'force	7
0	Tenn. S.	19
108		76

LANE		
26	Ft. Benning	6
20	Ala. State	0
13	S.C. State	2
24	Xavier	6
28	Ala. A.&M.	0
6	Lin. (Mo.)	7
20	Miles Coll.	0
25	Morehouse	6
27	LeMoyne	0
189		27

LINCOLN		
68	St. Paul	0
19	Del. State	6
21	Union	6
0	Morgan	28
10	Hampton	7
19	W'berf'oe	26
20	Fla. A.&M.	14
157		87

Louisville Muny.		
6	Lin. (Mo.)	12
27	Ft. Knox	0
13	Morristown	6
39	Lock. Air	0
27	Miles. M.	12
6	Fisk	0
118		30

MO. LINCOLN		
12	Louisv'e M.	6
14	Langston	6
0	Tenn. State	12
0	Wilb'force	0
7	Lane Coll.	6
13	Phil. Smith	0
7	Ark. State	13
60		43

MORGAN		
22	Del. State	6
13	West Va.	12
35	Grambling	0
28	Lincoln	0
12	A. & T.	7
15	Bluefield	6
20	Hampton	0
6	Va. State	0
151		31

Morris Brown		
13	Allen	9
0	Morehouse	0
0	Fla. A.&M.	7
2	Shaw	22
0	S.C. State	7
46	Ft. Valley	0
0	Ky. State	13
20	Benedict	7
3	Clark	0
84		65

Morristown		
13	Bristol V.	12
39	Friendship	0
16	Ft. Valley	2
7	Louis. M.	13
39	Voorhees	13
25	Swift Mem.	0
81	Albany S.	0
0	Bluefield	20
6	Morris C.	21
226		81

N.C. STATE		
85	Ft. Jackson	0
32	Del. State	6
19	Bluefield	0
26	N.C. Trs.	0
13	Union	0
0	A. & T.	17
14	Tenn. State	6
29	Smith	0
6	Va. State	14
6	Shaw	12
230		55

N.C. TEACHERS		
0	West. Va.	31
6	Ky. State	25
7	Bluefield	12
0	N.C. State	26
19	Liv'gstone	0
6	Smith	6
25	St. Paul	0
6	Del. State	12
7	Knoxville	6
76		118

PAINE		
20	Ft. Jackson	0
19	Morris Col.	6
0	Allen U.	19
26	Ft. Valley	6
40	Claflin	6
6	Bethune	13
6	Ga. State	6
117		56

Prairie View		
12	Tex. Coll.	0
16	Grambling	6
25	Langston	12
0	Southern	35
67	Bur. F.	7
0	Wiley	19
7	Ark. State	7
6	Houston C.	0
0	Sam. H.	0
133		86

RUST		
6	Jackson	22
2	Tougaloo	0
0	Leland	12
12	Okolona	0
2	Alcorn	0
12	Campbell	0
34		34

SHAW		
25	Fay'eville	0
14	A. & T.	13
7	Bluefield	8
7	Howard	21
20	Morris B.	2
41	St. Paul	0
14	Union	20
12	Smith	12
12	N.C. State	6
152		82

SOUTHERN		
0	Houston	0
38	Grambling	0
65	S. Huston	0
7	Ark. State	9
50	Langston	7
19	Tex. Coll.	18
20	Tenn.	21
19	Wiley	7
38	Fla. A.&.M.	19
35	Prairie V.	0
281		

SMITH		
0	Hampton	
0	Va. State	
0	West. Va.	
6	Howard	
6	N.C. Trs.	
12	Shaw	
2	A. & T.	
26		

ST. PAUL		
0	Lincoln	
0	Bluefield	
0	Shaw	
0	N.C. Trs.	
0	St. Aug.	
0	Del. State	
0		

STORER		
12	Pr. Anne	19
12	Cheyney	22
0	Cheyney	12
6	Va. S. Un.	18
30		71

TEXAS COLLEGE		
13	Tenn. State	20
12	Sam Huston	0
26	Arkansas	0
20	Langston	21
26	Kentucky	7
18	Southern	19
0	P. View	12
56	Tillotson	0
6	Houston Col.	6
6	Wiley	0
183		85

TUSKEGEE		
56	Army C.	0
59	Phil Smith	0
21	Grambling	6
33	Clark	0
14	Wilb'force	7
13	Fisk	0
15	Morehouse	0
21	Wiley	6
12	Fla. A.&.M.	21
30	S.C. State	14
26	Ala. State	14
300		68

UNION		
27	Oakwood	0
13	Howard	19
6	Lincoln	21
0	N.C. State	13
6	Va. State	13
20	Shaw	14
0	Bluefield	0
0	Hampton	18
72		98

VA. STATE		
12	Allen	6
20	Smith	0
14	Hampton	9
13	Union	6
14	West Va.	19
14	A. & T.	7
14	N.C. State	6
0	Morgan	6
101		59

WEST VA.		
31	N.C. Trs.	0
21	Howard	13
12	Morgan	13
6	Smith	0
6	A. & T.	19
7	Bluefield	6
19	Va. State	14
54	Ft. Knox	0
13	W'berforce	13
169		78

WILEY		
105	Phil Smith	0
32	Ark. State	7
19	Prairie V.	0
6	Tuskgee	21
6	Langston	0
7	Southern	19
26	Sam. H.	0
0	Tex. Coll.	6
201		53

XAVIER		
34	Benedict	12
6	Lane	24
9	Bishop	0
7	Houston	6
40	Dillard	0
96		42

THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

The Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Negro Gridders Starred From Coast to Coast

With the presentation of The Pittsburgh Courier's annual All-America team—in which we pay tribute to the kids who blazed a glory trail in Negro colleges across the country—it is also fitting and proper that we salute those who made the grade on white college teams. There were more Negro players wearing the banners and colors of white colleges in 1946 than ever before in the history of the game. From the rock bound coast of the East, to the sunny shores of the Golden West, they held their own and in some instances played brilliant roles week in and week out.

It isn't overly important, however, whether they starred or were lost in the mass of players who sat on the bench every Saturday afternoon. The important thing is that they made the squads of their respective schools and that thousands of people saw them playing and mingling harmoniously with their white teammates. Their presence on these teams was a definite rebuke to those who like to say that "it can't be done." They ate, slept and traveled with their white teammates. Side by side they battled the opposition and sought victory as a unit, and in so doing, elegantly refuted the biased preachings of those suffering from a racial phobia. Whenever these Negro players ran out on the field with their white teammates, they created another problem for those who have let their minds become distorted and warped trying to reject the fact that all men are brothers under the skin and created equal.

Democracy is a good thing. But there are a lot of eccentrics who refuse to believe it. One of the best ways to counter their vicious teachings is through the field of sports. The guy who spreads racial venom finds it exceedingly difficult to explain or off-set the deeds of the Joe Louises, Hank Greenbergs, Jackie Robinsons, Sid Luckmans and others of minorities who have made good in the world of sports.

* * *

Jackson Was Top College Player

That is why it is significant and important that we cite these cases. It is a boost for Democracy and an effective slap back at the Bilbos, Rankins and others of their ilk. It makes guys who belong to the Klan, for instance, cringe and run for cover, because they know they can't explain these accomplishments and achievements, and at the same time convince you that some people are better than others by virtue of their racial heritage. You can't convince a guy who has just seen Buddy Young romp 90 yards for a touchdown, Joe Louis knock an opponent for a loop, or Hank Greenberg blast a baseball clear out of the park, that they are inferior and not worthy of first-class citizenship. So, sports—like Democracy—are a good thing and an effective weapon to use against the racial mobsters.

Sat. 12-14-46

The outstanding Negro player in the white college ranks this year was Levi Jackson, who romped all over the Yale Bowl and won the George Bulger Lowe trophy as the outstanding football player in New England. Jackson, the first Negro player at Yale, as well as the first to win the Lowe award, dominated the offensive picture for his team during the season. He led the Elue in rushing, total offense, punting, punt returns, kickoff returns and scoring. He averaged 6 yards per try, and is ranked by the National Collegiate Athletic Bureau as the third top ball-carrier in the Nation.

Another brilliant player was Horace Gillom of Nevada. He was seventh in the Nation in punting, with a 42.1-yard average, and the key offensive player on his team. There were many other outstanding players across the Nation in the college ranks. And, at the same time, Negroes made their marks in the professional field, with such stalwarts as Marion Motley and Bill Willis of the Cleveland Browns, and Kenny Washington and Woody Strode of the Los Angeles Rams.

Here is a partial list of Negro gridders who performed on college and professional teams. Not all of them were brilliant, sensational players, but—as we said a few paragraphs above—they made their respective teams, and that is all you can ask:

College Ranks—Levi Jackson, YALE; Chet Pierce, HARVARD; Gene Derricottie, Bob Mann, Len Ford, MICHIGAN; Buddy Young, Paul Patterson, Bert Piggott, Ike Owens, ILLINOIS; Horace Gillom, Bill Bass, NEVADA; Mel Groomes, Hugh McKinnis, INDIANA; Bobby Lee, PITTSBURGH; Fritz Alexander, DARTMOUTH; Emlen Tunnel, Earl Banks, Sherman Howard, IOWA; Dan Towler, Walter Cooper, WASHINGTON & JEFFERSON; Harvey Grimsley, RUTGERS; Linwood Sexton, WICHITA; Bob Mike, UCLA; Ernie Parks, Stan Dixon, OHIO STATE; Jimmy Holland, NORTHWESTERN; Glen Pullins, MINNESOTA; Willard Stargel, CINCINNATI; Ted Mason, WESTERN RESERVE; Fred Burgess, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY; Jake Kelley, Millard Mitchell, FRESNO STATE; Horace Smith, MICHIGAN STATE; John Hazely, Don Godboldo, Robert Williams, Eulis Carpenter, WAYNE UNIVERSITY; Bob Reynolds, OREGON; Willie Peters, SANTA BARBARA STATE; John Finney, Bob Boyd, COMPTON JUNIOR COLLEGE; Wallace Triplet, Dennie Hoggard, PENN STATE; Fred Barclay, BUFFALO UNIVERSITY; Wilbur and Tom Flanagan, SCRANTON UNIVERSITY.

Professional Ranks—Kenny Washington, Woody Strode, LOS ANGELES RAMS; Marion Motley, Bill Willis, CLEVELAND BROWNS; Ezzarett Anderson, Charles Anderson, HOLLYWOOD

BEARS; John Allen, Bull Lewis, Mel Reid, Bernie Remsen, OAKLAND GIANTS; Clem Hooks, LOS ANGELES BULLDOGS, and Don Welcher, SAN FRANCISCO CLIPPERS.

* * *

That's a Mighty Fine Army!

Now, in my little book, that's a mighty fine array of stalwarts to be out there fighting for us, doing what they can to prove that the demi-gods are wrong, and that we are a great race of people.

To prove the point we're trying to make, herewith is an excerpt from a story recently published in The New York Daily News. It was penned by Dick Young and is a stirring example of what can be accomplished racially in the field of sports:

"Have the various All-America selections got you down? If there's any one topic that makes a grid fan see red about this time of the year, this is it. His favorite, probably a player on a relatively unknown small school, gets the go by, while players on schools with high pressure press agents get the laurels. When I got around to thinking about it, there was really only one fellow who, I felt, deserved the royal rating of "All-America." He's a boy named Bill Schuler. Never heard of him? Well, he goes to Yale, and plays a pretty good game at tackle. But that's not the real reason. Yale, you may have heard, came up with a pretty fine Negro back this year—a freshman named Levi Jackson. Before the start of the season, a few of the cockroach society boys on Yale's squad did a bit of grumbling about a Negro playing on Yale's team for the first time. 'I'm not going to room with him, you can bet on that,' some of them mumbled. The situation was causing Coach Howie Odell deep concern one day when, into his officer walked Schuler, and said: 'Coach, I want to room with Jackson. I think he's a fine kid.' Now Schuler is a senior, and Jackson is a freshman. As things turned out, however, the entire squad was quartered in a dormitory. But the angle that warms your heart is this: Schuler comes from one of the richest families in the South—from Birmingham, Ala. That's no joke, son."

2 Make All-Big Nine 1946 Football Team

The Afro-American

CHICAGO — For the third straight year, the Big Nine's mythical football eleven has an interracial angle.

Earl Banks, guard at University of Iowa, and Isaiah (Ike) Owens, end at University of Illinois, were named to the team, selected last week by coaches, officials and newspapermen covering the conference games.

Banks was one of the three men garnering the most votes in the balloting. Others were Alex Agase of Illinois and Bob Chappuis of Michigan, both white.

Owens held down the regular right end berth on the Illini team which copped the Big Nine championship and will play in the Rose Bowl on New Year's Day against UCLA. *Baltimore, Md.*

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Grid Grille

The Afro-American

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YALE 27, HARVARD 14
MICHIGAN 58, OHIO STATE 6
ILLINOIS 20, NORTHWESTERN 0
RUTGERS 25, Bucknell 0
BUFFALO 36, Johns Hopkins 0
Georgetown 19, NEW YORK U. 12
PITT 14, PENN STATE 7
DARTMOUTH 20, Princeton 13
INDIANA 34, Purdue 20

CIAA

NOVEMBER 28 (Thanksgiving)
Union at Hampton
Morgan at Va. State
Smith at A. & T. *Baltimore, Md.*
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PROFESSIONAL

DECEMBER 1

LOS ANGELES RAMS at New York
CLEVELAND BROWNS at Miami

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In this Corner

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

About Democracy in the Rose Bowl

Mon. 11-25-46

By Bill Mardo

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The eyes of America will be on the Rose Bowl come New Year's Day. And what an arena of democracy the Tournament of Roses will be. UCLA is the school of Jackie Robinson, Kenny Washington, Woody Strode. And Illinois is the representative of the Big Nine . . . long a Jimcrow buster on the gridiron. Just take a look at the top teams in that Conference. Negro gridders star on most of them. Michigan has Gene Derricote, Len Ford and Bob Mann, Ohio State has Ernie Parks, Dick Jackson and Stan Dixon, Iowa boasts the sensational halfback Emlen Tunnell, Indiana with its Mel Groomes . . . Northwestern has Jim Holland.

And what of Illinois itself? The Rose Bowl bound champs list Buddy Young, Paul Patterson, Ike Owens . . . and Bert Piggott.

Piggott particularly stands out in my mind. Maybe it's because the substitute fullback had such a great afternoon against Northwestern in the Conference clincher two afternoons ago. . . . Or maybe it's because of the chat I had with Bert not so long ago when he was starring for the Tuskegee Army Air Field gridders. That was shortly before Bert was discharged and went back to Illinois.

Piggott is a soft-spoken, shy young man with friendly brown eyes and a warm, engaging smile. Born 26 years ago in the tiny Virginia town of Norge, his family migrated north to Hinsdale, Illinois when he was a kid of four. It was there that Bert attended grammar school and later Hinsdale Township High. He was the only Negro on the Hinsdale football squad.

And I recall in our conversation at the Polo Grounds last year, how Piggott felt about the question of Jimcrow. How he wished all phases of life would copy the fine democratic model established in most sports. "None of the other guys on the Hinsdale team paid any attention to my color—all of us played as one."

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...d now they're going to the Rose Bowl. Just to prove a point, ... Bilbo.

Derricotte, Mann, Ford Star For Michigan "11"

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Fri. 11-29-46

COLUMBUS, Ohio — (NNPA) — Gene Derricotte, a halfback, and Bob Mann and Len Ford, ends, were big contributors to the Michigan defeat of Ohio State Saturday afternoon by a score of 58 to 6.

Michigan's first touchdown drive started from its own 36-yard line, where Derricotte was dropped after fielding a fourth down punt. After successive first downs, Derricotte passed to Henry Fonde, a back, in the right flat for six yards and then picked up three more inside Ohio State's left tackle.

A series of plays took the ball to the Ohio State 17. Bob Chappuis threw to Mann who fell five yards from the goal. Fonde went over in two plays.

CHAPPUIS PASSES TO MANN

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In the third period, the Wolverines picked up twenty-seven yards when Chappuis passed to Mann, who lateraled to Elmer Madar. Mann got the touchdown on a 21-yard sprint around the Buckeyes' right flank.

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11-29-46

Derricott intercepted a pass by Tom Phillips, the Buckeyes quarterback and returned twenty-five yards to Ohio State's 16 to start the drive for touchdown No. 8.

Ernie Parks, an Ohio State end, was sent into the game as a substitute.

LAND GIANTS; Clem Hooks, LOS ANGELES BULLDOGS, and Don Welcher, SAN FRANCISCO CLIPPERS.

* * *

That's a Mighty Fine Army!

Now, in my little book, that's a mighty fine array of stalwarts to be out there fighting for us, doing what they can to prove that the demi-gods are wrong, and that we are a great race of people.

To prove the point we're trying to make, herewith is an excerpt from a story recently published in The New York Daily News. It was penned by Dick Young and is a stirring example of what can be accomplished racially in the field of sports:

"Have the various All-America selections got you down? If there's any one topic that makes a grid fan see red about this time of the year, this is it. His favorite, probably a player on a relatively unknown small school, gets the go by, while players on schools with high pressure press agents get the laurels. When I got around to thinking about it, there was really only one fellow who, I felt, deserved the royal rating of "All-America." He's a boy named Bill Schuler. Never heard of him? Well, he goes to Yale, and plays a pretty good game at tackle. But that's not the real reason. Yale, you may have heard, came up with a pretty fine Negro back this year—a freshman named Levi Jackson. Before the start of the season, a few of the cockroach society boys on Yale's squad did a bit of grumbling about a Negro playing on Yale's team for the first time. 'I'm not going to room with him, you can bet on that," some of them mumbled. The situation was causing Coach Howie Odell deep concern one day when, into his officer walked Schuler, and said: 'Coach, I want to room with Jackson. I think he's a fine kid.' Now Schuler is a senior, and Jackson is a freshman. As things turned out, however, the entire squad was quartered in a dormitory. But the angle that warms your heart is this: Schuler comes from one of the richest families in the South—from Birmingham, Ala. That's no joke, son."

2 Make All-Big Nine 1946 Football Team

The Afro-American

CHICAGO — For the third straight year, the Big Nine's mythical football eleven has an interracial angle.

Earl Banks, guard at University of Iowa, and Isaiah (Ike) Owens, end at University of Illinois, were named to the team, selected last week by coaches, officials and newspapermen covering the conference games.

Banks was one of the three men garnering the most votes in the balloting. Others were Alex Agase of Illinois and Bob Chappuis of Michigan, both white.

Owens held down the regular right end berth on the Illini team which copped the Big Nine championship and will play in the Rose Bowl on New Year's Day against UCLA.

Baltimore, Md.

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BUFFALO 36, Johns Hopkins 0
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PITT 14, PENN STATE 7
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12,000 Negro Fans See Florida Games

News Chan…

By The Associated Press

Three bowl games were staked in Florida New Year's Day for the benefit of some 12,000 Negro football fans—the annual Flower Bowl tilt at Jacksonville, the Coconut Bowl classic at Miami and the first Azalea Bowl contest at Orlando.

At Jacksonville, 3,000 fans turned out in a clear, cool day to see the Louisiana Normal Tigers from Grambling claw their way to a 19 to 6 win over the Lane University Dragons from Jackson, Tenn.

It was the fifth annual version of the Flower Bowl and Lane's second defeat in the affair. Louisiana struck twice in the second quarter and again in the last period as against a single Lane tally in the closing minutes of the game.

At Orlando, the Azalea Bowl tradition got off to a good start when a rugged Knoxville University eleven swamped Florida Normal College, 18 to 0, before a crowd of 4,000 persons.

The Florida squad was no match for Knoxville's consistent running attack which netted two touchdowns in the second period and another in the final quarter.

At Miami, Bethune - Cookman College, of Daytona Beach, gained undisputed possession of the Coconut Bowl title by defeating the Albany, Ga., State Teachers, 32 to 0.

The Cookman Wildcats dominated the classic from the beginning, scoring early in the first period, twice in the second, once in the third and again in the final. Some 5,000 fans watched.

Taliaferro Is Inducted

Daily World New York 2-11-46

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Feb. 10 (UP).—George Taliaferro, Negro freshman star of the 1945 Indiana University football team has been inducted into the Army.

Taliaferro, the Gary, Ind., halfback who was acclaimed as the No. 1 Big Ten back last season, was inducted at Indianapolis yesterday.

At 17 and playing his first season of college competition, Taliaferro gained 801 yards by running and scored six touchdowns as the Hoosiers went undefeated through their schedule and won their first Big Ten championship in history.

2-11-46

Pro Grid Champs Take on 2nd Player for '46 Season

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat.

Los Angeles Eleven Hires ex-UCLA End to Team With Halfback Ken Washington

LOS ANGELES —Signing of Woodrow Wilson Strode, veteran end from the University of California at Los Angeles and the Fourth Air Force, was announced Saturday by the world champion Los Angeles Rams of the National Football League. 5-18-46

WOODY STRODE

Strode played several seasons as a teammate of Kenny Washington, recently signed by the Rams, and as a team they formed one of the greatest forward passing combinations in Pacific Coast football history. Their most recent season together was last year when they played with the Hollywood Bears.

General Manager Charles F. (Chile) Walsh, white, of the Rams, purchased Strode from Paul Schissler, coach and owner of the Bears, as he had done earlier in acquiring Washington. Washington and Strode will be the first members of their race seen in National League competition since Joe Lillard of Oregon played for the Chicago Cardinals a dozen years ago.

All-Coast End

Strode, who also put the shot over 51 feet and threw the discus beyond the 160-foot mark, was All-Pacific Coast Conference end in 1937-38-39 and made the All-Coast service team three years. In addition to being a great pass receiver he is like a panther on defense and an excellent blocker on offense. 5-18-46

Strode first played football at Jefferson High School in Los Angeles. He and Washington, who played his prep football at Lincoln high here, have been close friends for many years.

Racial Issue Rears Between Miss. State, Nevada Grid Game

The News Birmingham, Ala. Tues. 10-29-46

RENO, Nev., Oct. 29—(AP)—The old Southern custom of drawing the color line on the football field today endangered the Nov. 16 game between Nevada and Mississippi State at State College, Miss.

Graduate Manager Joseph T. McDonnell, of the University of Nevada football team, revealed that athletic officials of the Southern school had written Nevada Coach James Aiken that the appearance in the lineup of his two star Negro players would cause "an unfortunate commotion."

McDonnell said that the Nevada Athletic Board would meet later in the week to formulate a policy in the matter. He said cancellation of the game had not been brought up before the board. The contract between the schools calls for a $3,000 forfeit to be paid by the school cancelling the game. As a result both sides were cagey, with Mississippi State Coach Allyn McKeen flatly saying he had no comment on the situation.

The Nevada Negro players, William Bass, 24, of Monongahela, Pa., and Horace Gillom, 25, of Massilon, Ohio, have been mainstays of the Wolfpack all season. Gillom has averaged 51 yards on his punts and Bass, main Wolf ground gainer, has converted 11 out of 15 tries from placement.

Nevada students stewed over the situation with fraternities openly taking the side of the Negroes.

McConnell said the athletic board had written Mississippi State for clarification and that a reply was expected later in the week.

To further complicate the Nevada-Mississippi State situation, Nevada's President Robert O. Mosely has accepted an invitation to be the principal speaker at the inauguration of the new Mississippi State president the night before the game. President Mosely was on the Pacific Coast today and unaware of the strained relations between the two schools.

Athletic Board Says Action Is "For Best"

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 10-26-46

President Approves; Morgan Coach Shocked, Would Mend Differences

BALTIMORE—West Virginia State College has severed football relations with Morgan State College.

The action was taken at a meeting of the West Virginia athletic committee on Tuesday "in the interest of attaining the superior status of competition as desired by the CIAA."

An announcement was forwarded to the press shortly after the action was taken, but Morgan officials were not informed of the break until the AFRO telephoned Coach E. P. (Eddie) Hurt seeking a statement.

The Bear mentor expressed surprise but declined to make any comment "until after I have had an opportunity to discuss the matter with other members of the Morgan athletic committee."

"I am personally regretful, however," declared Hurt, "and I feel that Morgan would go more than half way to straighten out any difficulties that exist. I would hate to lose West Virginia as an opponent in football.

Not Speaking for College

"These are my personal views and are not to be interpreted as an official reply to West Virginia, for, as I have already said, we haven't yet received any word from West Virginia concerning this action."

Announcement of the break with Morgan came in the form of a statement signed by the West Virginia athletic committee, the full text of which follows:

"West Virginia State College considers intercollegiate athletics as an essential phase of the college curriculum. The program of varsity athletics is administered according to accepted educational standards and objectives. In view of the above and as the result of the past two years of the competition with Morgan State College in football, the West Virginia State College athletic committee has taken the position that the annual football contest between Morgan and West Virginia State does not permit the attainment of the desired educational objectives that should be attained through varsity competition.

"This committee therefore, has voted that competition in football between the two institutions be discontinued in the interest of attaining the superior status of competition as desired by the CIAA.

"This action has been taken by the committee not because it does not want competition with Morgan College, but because it is felt that such action must be taken to meet the competitive standards of the CIAA."

Asked to clarify the statement, Dr. Charles C. Hawkins, chairman of the West Virginia athletic committee, told the AFRO:

"All of our experiences with Morgan in football have bordered on very poor sportsmanship, and we find it is gradually developing among the spectators, both here in Charleston and Baltimore. It is getting to the point we fear the reactions among the spectators threaten serious trouble—even bordering on riot.

"This action was taken following a long and thorough discussion of the situation following the Saturday game at Baltimore. The committee feels it is for the best, and President (John W.) Davis concurs.

Board Member "Arrested"

"An example of the extent to which this unsportsmanly attitude has gone may be found in the fact that one of the members of our State Board of Education was among several persons taken in custody by Baltimore police following last Saturday's game.

"He was presumably taken in hand to break up what police officers apparently thought was the beginning of a probable fight. Fortunately, the board member was released before he was taken to the lockup.

"Our committee is now drawing up a full report," Dr. Hawkins continued, "and as soon as it is completed we will forward a copy to Morgan and another to the secretary of the CIAA.

"I do not wish to go further into detail at this moment, nor will I disclose the name of the party who was placed 'under temporary arrest' in Baltimore. I would much prefer that any statement regarding this unfortunate incident come from him.

"You can be sure, though, that all of us at West Virginia are definitely displeased with the type of play that has occurred in the two football games between Morgan and West Virginia these past two years."

Dr. Hawkins did not leave the door closed to proposals that the two schools patch up their differences. He declared:

"West Virginia is desirous of playing Morgan and any schools she can in the CIAA, but for the present we will wait until our report has been submitted to the association and see what is its reaction."

Fists Play

Severance of relations between the two schools obviously stems from the bitter rivalry that exists between Morgan and West Virginia State College athletes, a rivalry that flared into fisticuffs in last Saturday's game here, won by Morgan, 13-12.

Two players of each team were disqualified by game officials for fighting. Mitch Whittingham, halfback of the Bears, and Linwood Greene, West Virginia quarterback, were ejected in the second quarter, and Art Fauntleroy and Jim Bailey, linemen, were put out of the contest in the fourth period.

In both the Charleston game in 1945 and the Saturday clash here, slugging and other unsportsmanly tactics were evident on the part of both teams.

Inter-Racial Game Slated

P.M. New York, N.Y. Mon. 10-28-46

Bill Bell, former Ohio State tackle, is coming back to the Polo Grounds, Nov. 11, with his North Carolina A. & T. Negro eleven to play the New London Undersea Raiders in an interracial contest. Bell was the coach of the Tuskegee eleven which won last year in the annual charity game against the Raiders.

Nevada Spurns

Dixie Grid Ban

Defender Chicago, Ill.

On th

Students Irate As Board Plans Retort

Sat. 11-9-46

(Special to the Defender)

RENO, Nev. — The University of Nevada's Athletic Control Board, scheduled to meet early this week, is expected to bypass Southern race prejudice and refuse Mississippi State college's request that two Negro football stars be left at home when Nevada journeys to Bilbo's lair Nov. 16.

While G.I. students here strained at official persuasion preventing their opening fire on Mississippi, Bilbo and all his ilk, William Bass, former all-American quarterback, vowed that he will never again enter the venom-infested state in any event. Bass, one of the two Negro grid star victims of Dixie bias, was stationed with combat engineers in Mississippi for 14 months of the war.

His teammate, Horace Gillom, already seen as of all-American caliber, a veteran of the European war theatre with three battle stars, doesn't want to play South of the Mason and Dixon line either.

With campus fraternities openly allied with the two veterans, Nevada's Graduate Manager of football, Joseph T. McDonnell prepared to tell State college that both men are in good standing, "eligible for privileges accorded any student, regardless of race, color or creed."

McDonnell's previous letters and wire to Mississippi's athletic director, C. R. Noble, asking clarification of the Dixie school's stand, have met no response. Noble originally wrote that presence of Bass and Gillom in the Nevada lineup Nov. 16 would "cause unfortunate commotion."

Under the contract entered into by the two schools, should either team default, it must stand ready to forfeit $3,000 to its opponent.

Further complications resulted from the fact that Nevada's president, Robert O. Moseley, former prominent Mississippi and Tennessee educator, has promised to speak at the inauguration of Mississippi State's new president on the night preceding the game.

Moseley is perhaps in sympathy with the Dixie bias code, observers report, but as he is not a member of Nevada's Athletic Control Board, he is maintaining a discreet silence. Nevada declares that any word or action on his part would bring state-wide denunciation.

So rare has race prejudice been on Western athletic fields that Mississippi's objection at first found a stunned democracy in Nevada. Although an open quarrel is not sought, citizens now generally assert that Nevada has as much right to impose democracy on Mississippi as Dixie has to fois White Supremacy on a free West

Negro College 11 Routs Navy Raiders 49-13

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Tues. 11-12-46

A powerful Negro 11 from North Carolina A&T College rolled irresistibly over the Navy New London Underseas Raiders yesterday at the Polo Grounds, 49-13. Seventeen thousand fans who turned out for the second annual inter-racial game for the Associated Football Charities were rewarded with a wide open, spectacular scoring fray in which the Carolinians completely dominated the play.

Starting with a touchdown in the first minutes, A&T rolled on irresistibly with an explosive ground attack sparked by big Bob Jackson, 200 pounds of fleet-footed halfback. The figures tell the story of the one-sided, but crowd pleasing fray. A&T rolled to 17 first downs and a total yardage of 445 to the Raiders' 4 first downs and 80 yards.

Most of that imposing yardage came overland, on deceptive quick opening plays from a well directed and executed "T" formation.

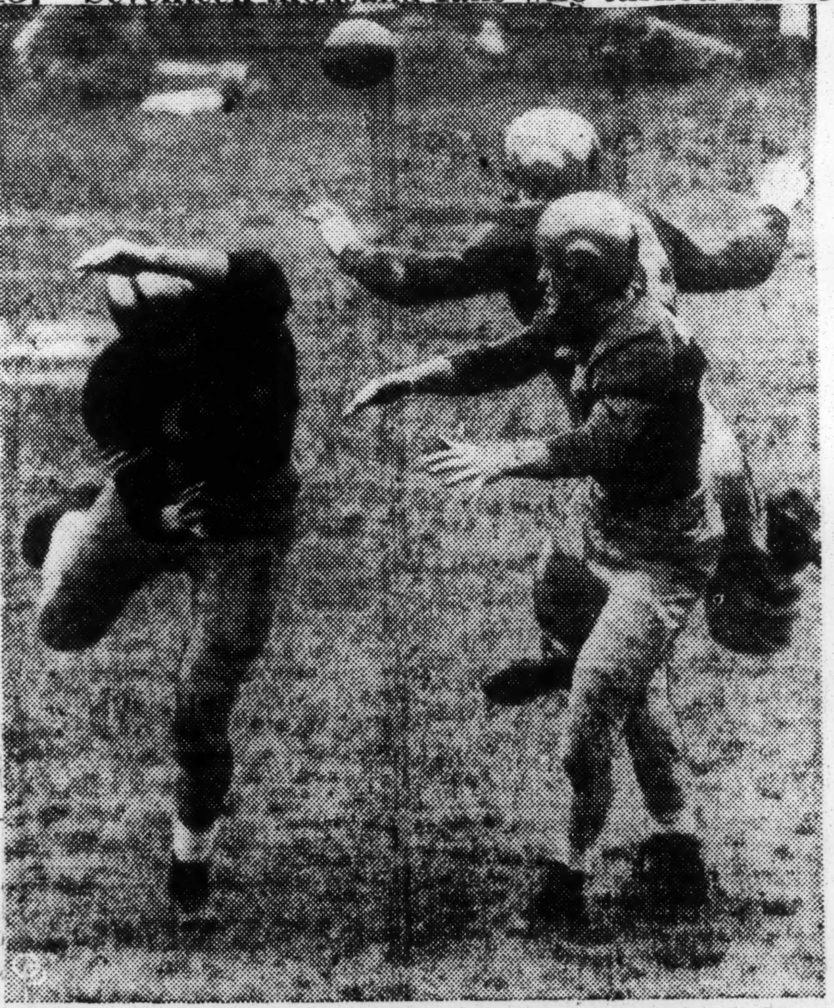
The spectators had hardly settled in their seats under lowering skies when Jackson ricocheted off the Raiders' line to go over in three stabs from the 27. A crashing defense taking advantage of a poor pass by the Raiders' center shortly accounted for two more points via a safety.

In the second quarter second-stringer Wee Willie Brown circled left end in a burst of speed to score from the Raiders' 26. Near the end of the half Raiders' fought back to the A&T 25-yard line, from where a tricky lateral-forward, Steele to Sweet to Rise, resulted in a touchdown, making the score 15-6.

At the intermission the A&T band put on an impressive musical show and Promoter Douglas Hertz of Football Charities spoke of a united America without racial discrimination.

Back in the game, the unstoppable Jackson ripped to two more quick touchdowns as the second half opened, culminating long ground drives with plunges through the line. Another safety against the raiders and a 12-yard touchdown jaunt by Manual Douglas around end ran the tally to 36-6 as A&T opened up with a dazzling exhibition of defensive and offensive football.

In the third quarter Colman of A&T ran 40 yards for an apparent touchdown which was nullified by a penalty. On the next play Cotton got away for an exact duplicate of Colman's run, this one counting. Sweet's beautiful pass from midfield, caught on the dead run by Steele, broke into the A&T scoring parade and received a fine hand. With a minute to go in the game Kelly, a substitute, took a lateral around left end and raced 67 yards through the Raiders for the final touchdown.



This Could Be part of a football ballet, except that it is Rawson of West Point trying vainly to grab a forward pass while Notre Dame defenders Lujack and Gompers hover nearby. 'Twas 0-0, and a little rougher than this unusual photo might suggest.

Derricotte and Ford Knife Army Wall As Michigan Bows, 20-13

The Call

Fri. 10-18-46

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—Army defeated Michigan university, 20-13, in the University of Michigan stadium here Saturday, but Gene Derricotte, Michigan's Negro halfback and Len Ford, Negro left end played stellar ball for the Wolverines.

Both Dock Blanchard and Glenn Davis, Army stars, felt the weight of Derricotte and Ford's outstanding performance.

A crowd of 87,993 saw Derricotte knife Army's forward for good gains and rifle passes from difficult positions. 10-18-46-Fri.

In the second quarter Derricotte hit off-tackle for two yards and later zinged a pass that Davis barely knocked out of Madar's arms. Kansas City, Mo.

Len Ford, in the third period, went around Army's left end for 18, and then blocked well to aid White's touchdown march that evened the score at 13-13. Call

In this same quarter Derricotte carried the ball for eight and White hit off-tackle for a first down on Army's 25. 10-18-46-Fri.

KICKOFF TIME AGAINST BILBO--2:30

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

It's all-out to the Polo Grounds today for a fine interracial football game — and a nice afternoon watching the Bilbo white-supremacy myth getting booted all over the lot. Kickoff time for the North Carolina Aggies vs. The New London Underseas Raiders is at 2:30. Today's is the second annual interracial contest sponsored by the Associated Football Charities. In last year's opener, the Tuskegee Warhawks downed the Undersea Raiders 14-7 in one of the finest games of the season.

ALFORD INMAN—Aggies

And the same fellow who coached the Warhawks last year is now piloting the North Carolina Aggies. He's none other than Bill Bell, former All-American from Ohio State. Bell, long an advocate of the single-wing, has switched over to the T-formation, and his Aggies have taken to the speedier offensive setup with a vengeance. Aggie ace is Athie Garrison, 185-pound left half—and he's well supported with Muriel Reed, the hard-lunging fullback, and Robert "Stonewall" Jackson, the 200-pound right halfback par excellence.

Here are the lineups:

Mon. 11-11-46

NORTH CAROLINA A. & T. No. Player	Pos.	NEW LONDON UNDERSEA RAIDERS Player No.
24—Robert Watkins	LE	Lorren Kennedy—41
53—Joe Williams	LT	Martin Curran—29
17—Alford Inman	LG	Robert Kibler—32
27—William Pryor	C	F. R. York—34
31—James Rowe	RG	Stanford Neale—20
39—Floyd Jackson	RT	F. E. Moore—30
41—Willie Allen	RE	Don Lee—38
20—Charles Weaver	QB	Rick Saunders—25
43—Athie Garrison	LH	Richard Dickson—23
44—Robert Jackson	RH	Clark Slater—21
51—Muriel Reed	FB	Arthur Sweet—35

GINNY MOORE—Raiders

The New London Undersea Raiders, despite the loss of Dub Jones and Vince Moravec, have another powerful crew this season. The sub-squad is sparked by Art Sweet, former star halfback for Texas University last year. Against a schedule of pro and semi-pro opposition, the Raiders have won four and lost three

63d 1946

General

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga. Fri. 11-22-46

Backbone At Last

At long last, Northern white institutions with Negro players on their football teams are beginning to show some spine and therefore run their own teams, rather than permit southern colleges to dictate their policies and practices in the treatment of Negroes. Years ago, it used to be that in practically every instance where a Northern school had a game scheduled with a southern institution, it was understood that the Negro members of the football squads were left behnd. The whole practice was undemocratic and a gross insult to Negro people, not to mention the Negro players personally. Yet these institutions bowed to the forces of reaction and lily-white rubble as if there was nothing to be done about such things.

Today that is different. One by one Northern schools are proceeding to cancel games between institutions which refuse to play against teams having Negro members. The most recent example is that of Pennsylvania State College, when the dean of physical education, Dr. Carl P. Schott, advised the University of Miami that the two colored players on the team were regular members of the squad, and that as such, "the policy of the college is to compete only under circumstances which will permit the playing of any or all members of the athletic teams."

Ths is a wholesome trend, manifest not merely in college circles but many other areas of human association. Even the churches are beginning to see the light, although as Lilian Smith puts it: "Many of them are still snoring their heads off."

All or Nothing at All

The Afro-American

The world of sports last week provided two excellent examples of democracy in action—examples which might well be emulated in other areas of our national life.

Pennsylvania State College canceled its scheduled football game with the University of Miami (Fla.), and Nevada University canceled its game with Mississippi State College. Reason: Neither Penn State nor Nevada, each with two colored stars, would submit to proposals from their Dixie opponents to play without them.

The uncompromising attitude of these two Northern institutions, which measure the calibre of an athlete by his performance rather than by the color of his skin, strikes a particularly responsive chord in these days when hate-mongers and others of their ilk appear rapidly to be gaining the upper hand. Baltimore, Md.

If more schools, groups and individuals would take such a stand the democracy to which so many are willing to give lip-service only could be translated into positive action.

The "incidents" which Dixie diehards insist will take place as a result of interracial competition have time and again been proved to be merely myths born of wishful thinking. The refusal of these Southern schools to permit competition involving athletes of both races is more of a blow to their own athletes and to their student bodies than it is to the schools they refuse to play. Sat. 11-16-46

By burying their heads ostrich-like in the sands of bigotry, they are tacitly admitting that education, as they practice it, has fallen far short of its purpose.

In this

Corner

A Shameful Episode At Oklahoma City U.

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

GRID JIMCROW isn't stone cold dead yet. Latest bit of Hitler mockery comes from the moguls of Oklahoma City University who prevented two Negro stars of the visiting Fresno State College team from playing there last Saturday. **"It is not the custom to play Negroes and whites together in Oklahoma,"** the Oklahoma officials insisted. And so Fresno's ace halfback, Jack Kelley, and tackle Millard Mitchell stayed off the field when their teammates met the Oklahoma City eleven. Kelley, incidentally, has been the Fresno Bulldogs' leading ground-gainer in two seasons past—and Mitchell had become the Californians' varsity tackle in '45.

The story is that only a forfeiture of its $5,000 posted guarantee compelled the Fresno officials to make the trip without its two Negro stars. I can't help thinking of how much it would've meant if the Fresno officials had stuck by the two players despite the loss of money involved and what a significant lesson it would've been in the fight against Jimcrow—a fight that must never be measured in terms of dollars and cents. Sat. 10-19-46

But the main brunt of criticism muse be leveled against Oklahoma. Consider this bit of stomach-turning doubletalk which the school uttered in defending its Jimcrow tactics. We ourselves have no rulings against Negro competition, said the school, but Oklahoma "could assume no responsibility if harm might come to the two boys if they played."

What a weasel-worded, lynch type of talk that is! Sounds so familiar, doesn't it, of the southern town sheriffs who are quick to explain how they'd lived up to every letter of the law, given a Negro "prisoner" full rights . . . only "some of the boys got to him after we let him free. . . ."

Yes, when will the Oklahoma City University learn that Jimcrow in sports is a losing proposition, that it runs counter to every precept of decency and democracy, that the Jimcrow lie looks even more ridiculous coming from them today, when Negroes number among the biggest names in the football world . . . Buddy Young . . . Len Ford . . . Levi Jackson . . . Gene Derricotte . . . Bert Piggott . . . Emmet Tunnel . . . Mel Groomes . . . Bob Mann . . . Harvey Grimsley . . . Bob Reynolds . . . Paul Patterson . . . and Marion Motley, Bill Willis, Kenny Washington and Woody Strode in the pro loop.

Surely when the Oklahoma athletic moguls spoke of "harm" coming to Fresno's Negro stars, if they played, what could they have meant? That they themselves wouldn't be responsible for any such occurrences? Whom are they kidding? I doubt that any Oklahoma player would be guilty of consciously roughing it up against his Negro competitors unless the school officials whipped up the kind of Jimcrow hysteria that creates such incidents.

Sports is a great unifier. Negro and white athletes have had nothing but the most wholesome type of competitive experiences in football, boxing, track, basketball, and now in organized baseball. When athletes are brought together in a healthy atmosphere of team comeraderie, all artificial differences quickly dissipate. The case of Jackie Robinson is only one of many typical experiences. The great Negro second-baseman had many southerners as his teammates on the ballfield, and, from the completely healthful manner in which Montreal mentor Clay Hopper (himself a southerner) handled the club, allowing for the normal type of relationship that is called for when men have to play, live and travel together . . . well, what happened? Nothing but very fine bonds of friendship between Jackie and his buddies, whether they hailed from Brooklyn or South Carolina. A friendship born out of respect for each other's abilities—and no doubt the color question, which is a perplexing problem for most southerners who have been weaned on the white supremacy myth, must've come in for serious reconsideration and finally an utter rejection of the Bilbo line of propaganda by the southern members of the Montreal Royals.

And that's why the finger of guilt points so heavily on the athletic moguls of Oklahoma City University. Not only for its unwritten Jimcrow tactics . . . but for the kind of talk that emanated from official school spokesmen.

It would be a very good idea if the progressive people of Oklahoma City and the university's student body spoke out in no uncertain terms . . . demanding not only a change in the school's policy toward playing against mixed teams, but also pressing them to apologize for the ugly talk about not being responsible if any "harm" might come to the Negroes had they been permitted to compete.

For Bilbo himself couldn't have put it any better than did the bigwigs of Oklahoma City University.

Wright Denies Having Agreement Regarding Use of Two Negroes

The Black Dispatch — Oklahoma City, Okla. Sat. 10-19-46

Republished from the Fresno Bee

FRESNO, Calif. — Earl H. Wight, athletic director of the Fresno State College, today emphatically denied he had reached an understanding with Oklahoma City University officials regarding playing of two Fresno State Negro players in a football game with Oklahoma City U. in the latter's stadium Saturday night.

An Associated Press dispatch from Oklahoma City quoted John H. (Bo) Rowland, football coach of Oklahoma City U., to the effect his school and Fresno reached an agreement before a two game football contract was signed.

"It is an absolute contradiction of facts," Wright said today. "As matter of fact Rowland never was in the picture. All negotiations were carried on between myself andMose Simms, director of athletics of Oklahoma City U and nothing was mentioned about our playing the Negroes—Jack Kelley and Millard Mitchell—when we negotiated the contract months ago.

"The first thing I knew about their objection to the playing of the two colored boys was about a week ago last Friday. I talked with him about hotel accommodations in Oklahoma City U, a gate check and bus transportation from the airport. He called back and said everything was taken care of and at the close of the conversation said—and causally, 'By the way, colored boys are not allowed to play in games below the Mason-Dixon Line.'"

Would Not Have Signed

Wright insists that was the first mention of the colored boys, adding "if we knew that we wouldn't have entered into a contract. Simms knew we had colored players on the team last Fall. He was then located at the University of Nevada."

Wright said that when he considered playing Oklahoma City U he did not consider the people of Oklahoma did not tolerate the playing of colored boys on teams in that state.

Wright was the member of the board of athletic control of the college who cast a lone vote to recognize the contract. It was a 4 to 1 vote by the combined faculty-student body group to cancel the game for which the contract carries a $5,000 forfeiture clause.

The first board meeting was held at noon and then Oklahoma City U was notified that Fresno would refuse to travel if the two

colored players would not be permitted to play. Simms in telegraphing his reply, said the right to play them was given with responsibility of the safety of the Negroes refused. Then the board again met and decided unanimously to honor the contract and leave the playing of Kelley and Mitchell up to the head coach.

'No Right To Cancel'

"I thought that as long as I was the one who negoiated the contract I was responsible and that we had no right to cancel the contract as long as they said we could play the two Negro players," Wright said. "I have not talked to Coach Jimmy Bradshaw if he is going to play them."

George Zenovich, Fresno State student body president who cast a vote in favor of canceling the contract, today said: "The students have decided they are not going to do anything about it. We really are holding the bag, because they have agreed to accept our Negro players. We talked with several people downtown and they thought it was foolish to try to do anything; after all the contract was signed by three people who should have known the facts."

Signing were Wright, J. W. Canfield, faculty representative and board chairman, and Art Safstrom, general manager of the Fresno State Association.

Students Are Irate

Zenovich said students, wrought up over the racial prejudice, had thought of raising a $5,000 fund to cover the $5,000 game forfeiture but were discouraged by townspeople.

"The students are all stirred up about the matter and the majority would rather see the game canceled but, under the circumstances that Oklahoma City U will accept our varsity, regardless of color, we will have to go through with it, but next time we'll know better," the student body chief said.

Attitude Not Fair

Frank Thomas, president of the Fresno college, today described the attitude of the Oklahoma community regarding the playing of the Negroes as un-American and unfair.

"Oklahoma City should take the responsibility for the conduct of its community or give us advance warning so that we do not enter into contracts which may expose any of our players to violence," the local college head said.

"If we had any idea an objection would be made, we would have not scheduled the game. The first news of their objection to Negro players came to me last week when I was in San Diego at a meeting. I understand their head of athletics knew last Fall we had Negro boys on our squad. He should have discussed that point with us when negotiating the contract. They have given us the right to play the boys, but they have given us no promise of responsibility for control of the spectators, but I understand our coach will not play them. And we're going to lick them without the Negro boys."

Safstrom Explains Contract

Safstrom said the contract with Oklahoma was a standard agreement, calling for the game in Oklahoma City October 12th, and the return game in Fresno Sept. 20, 1947, and carried the $5,000 forfeiture clause and clauses about other details except stipulating who should constitute the playing team.

"It merely calls for teams of the schools playing without reference to color or creed," Satfstrom said. "When they replied we could play the Negro boys, it was right back in our lap, legally."

Head coach Jimmy Bradshaw of FSC said Kelly and Mitchell will make the trip with the squad by plane and will suit up and be on the bench, but will not play.

Thirty-five players will be taken on the trip, but because of injuries and the decision of Bradshaw not to play Kelley and Mitchell, there will be about 30 players fit for duty against the big, unbeaten Oklahoma City U team.

Townsfolk To Go

Several townspeople will accompany the squad on the trip, leaving Fresno Friday morning. The squad may work out Friday night in Oklahoma City. A special chartered plane will carry the 50 people.

Scrimmage against Oklahoma City plays, run off the single wing formation, will be conducted tomorrow evening by the Bulldogs. It will be chiefly dummy scrimmage to eliminate the possibility of more injuries.

Bradshaw has moved Suge Carter, reserve quarterback, to right halfback to plug the hole left by Kelly's absence. Bill obinson and Carter will carry on for Kelly. Don Winder and Delmar Hanner, former Fowler High player, will be moved to Mitchell's spot at right guard.

* * *

REFUSES TO TALK

Black-Dispatch

Mose Simms, athletic director for the Oklahoma City University, when reached by The Fresno Bee today for a statement relative to the refusal of Oklahoma City U to permit Fresno State to play Jack Kelly and Millard Mitchell, Negro stars, against the Chiefs, said:

"All I have to say is the board of control of our school and Fresno State's board have reached a mutual agreement on playing the game. I have thousands of tickets on sale for the game at $2.75 apiece. That's all I know."

Simms refused to discuss the matter of Bo Rowland, OCU coach, being quoted as saying an agreement had been reached about the playing of Negro players when negotiations were closed for a two game series several months ago.

63d

Negro Issue Kills Nevada, Miss St. Tilt

The Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky. Tues. 11-5-46

Southern School Won't Violate Its 'Tradition'

Reno, Nev., Nov. 4 (AP)—The University of Nevada Board of Athletic Control voted unanimously today to cancel a football game scheduled with Mississippi State College because of the inability of the two schools to arrive at a mutual agreement regarding participation of Nevada's two Negro stars in the contest.

The game was scheduled for November 16, and the board agreed to leave the date open on Nevada's calendar.

The action was taken after the Nevada Athletic Board received a telegram from Mississippi State Athletic Director C. R. Noble stating that the Southern school "could not violate Southern tradition" by pitting whites against Negroes on the athletic field.

The original agreement stipulated that if either school cancelled the game it would pay a forfeit of $3,000.

The Nevada Athletic Board today instructed its athletic director, Joe McDonnell, to try to get Mississippi State to agree to cancellation of the game without demanding the forfeit. The Western school's athletic board went on record as favoring cancelling the game outright, regardless of the forfeit.

The controversy was over whether Horace Gillom, Negro end, and Bill Bass, Negro back, would be allowed to play at Starkville, Miss., against the Southern school.

63d

Penn State, Miami Cancel Over Negroes On Team

The Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky. Wed. 11-6-46

State College, Pa., Nov. 5 (AP)—Pennsylvania State College today canceled a November 29 football game with the University of Miami after the Florida institution asked that the game be called off to avoid "unfortunate incidents" which might arise if Penn State played two Negro members of the team.

Dr. Carl P. Schott, dean of physical education and athletics at Penn State, said cancellation followed month-long correspondence between the schools and was in keeping with "the policy of the college to compete only under circumstances which will permit the playing of any or all members of its athletic teams."

2D TIME

It was the second time in two days that a college football game had been called off because of Negro participants.

Nevada University yesterday canceled its November 16 game with Mississippi State at Starkville, Miss., after the Southern school stated playing of Negro against white players was traditionally banned in the South and that Mississippi State "would not violate that tradition."

Nevada officials said the western school would not play unless its two Negro stars were allowed to participate.

Earlier, Negroes who played for Fresno State of California sat on a bench when the team met at Oklahoma City University.

Dr. Bowman P. Ashe, president of Miami, announced he had written the Pennsylvania school asking the game scheduled for Miami November 29 be canceled to avoid "unfortunate incidents."

Sepia Stars Seek Berths At Harvard And Dartmouth

The World, Memphis, Tenn. Tues. 9-17-46

BOSTON (ANP)—Eastern collegiate football may for the first time in history feature colored players simultaneously at Harvard, Dartmouth, Yale and other colleges along the Atlantic seaboard including NYU.

Freshman Levi Jackson, the sensational Connecticut school boy halfback, is already being sized up as another potential Albie Boothe. Jackson can carry the mail and barring unfortunate events he will help win a lot of ball games for the Eli Bulldogs. It is Jackson at Yale who will make this season "unique". Few can recollect when Yale and Harvard had colored players at the same time. When they meet in the big annual classic it really will be something. Here's hoping.

Harvard's contribution will be 19-year-old 200-pound tackle Chet Pierce who will be making a repeat performance since he's played before and will be somewhat of a veteran in the Crimson forward wall. Chet is an all around boy. He played baseball for Harvard too.

Dartmouth, that fine college up at Hanover, N. H., is coached by Tuss McLaughry, the ex Brown U. mentor who always gave colored boys a break when at Providence. The Big Green forward wall will have a fine fighting colored center, Fritz Alexander, whose play last season won the attention of many followers of the game.

Jackson, Pierce, and Alexander have already shown up for practice at their respective schools. But there will be others at other colleges too. New York university is expected to uncover more sepia stars and I wouldn't be surprised if Cornell and other schools did likewise.

63d

NYU Has Two Negro Grid Aces

The Informer, Houston, Texas

SEBAGO LAKE, N. Y.—(ANP)—Every time Coach Jack Weinheimer looks over his big squad, he laughs at what fate has in store for his New York university football opponents this year.

Two Negroes on the squad would make any coach smile in glee and since no other Manhattan institution of higher education boasts any colored footballers, it is expected that Fred Burgess, former Morgan State fullback all CIAA star, and voted most valuable player on the Morgan squad last year, and George Starke, six-foot end from farther down the country, will be hard to displace and even in the early workouts, both have showed to an advantage.

Weinheimer expects his toughest opponent this year to be Boston college. Fordham is met in a traditional game around Thanksgiving and never in the history of the Catholic school, which has been the favorite in every game, has a colored player worn the maroon and gold of the Catholics. *Sat. 9-21-46*

Many outstanding Negroes have performed for the Violent Violets from the earliest days of the institution, before Chick Meehan came down from Syracuse to install big time football there. Meehan also brought a famous colored trainer, Ed Porter, who later went to the New York Giants where he still functions as reliever of aches and pains.

New York U., is out to recapture some of its lost football glory-lost through de-emphasis on athletics, but the size of this year's squad both numerically and in weight, has given Weinheimer pleasant dreams.

Derricotte, Ford, Mann Aid Wolverines in Win

The Call, Kansas City, Mo. Fri. 11-15-46

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—As the Michigan Wolverines steam-rolled Michigan State, 55-7, Saturday before 77,134 fans, Negro gridders on both teams helped determine the final score.

Gene Derricotte, Wolverine halfback, beside his brilliant passing, also raced across the goal line for a touchdown, and a Derricotte-to-Paul White pass produced a Wolverine score.

Len Ford and Bob Mason, Wolverine Negro ends, also aided in crushing the hapless State gridders. Ford added the first extra point for the Wolverines when he scooped up a blocked Wolverine placement try and raced over the goal line.

Mann figured in long gains from laterals and end-around plays.

63d 1946 General

NEVADA STUDENTS RALLY TO FIGHT MISSISSIPPI STATE'S JIMCROW THREAT

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 10-30-46

By Lester Rodney

Angry students of the University of Nevada, at Reno, are demanding that their football team cancel a scheduled game with Mississippi State rather than yield to a cowardly threat of violence against their two Negro players, it was announced yesterday.

The game is scheduled for Nov. 16 at Mississippi State. Graduate manager Joseph T. McDonnell of Nevada U. revealed yesterday that "athletic officials" of the southern school had written to Nevada coach James Aiken advising him that the appearance of his two star Negro players would cause "an unfortunate commotion."

These officials of Bilboland's State University are taking a leaf from the book of Oklahoma City, which similarly threatened "trouble" recently if Fresno State of California brought its Negro players to Oklahoma City. Despite student protests, Fresno State yielded to the threat, played without its Negro stars and received a well deserved shellacking.

But Nevada students, with a long tradition of no discrimination against Negroes or Mexican-Americans in sports, are fighting mad and in no mood to yield to Southern "tradition," says Tyrus Cobb, student public relations director.

"If Mississippi State insists we leave our two colored stars, Horace Gillom and Bill Bass home the remainder of the team will keep them company in Reno. It means forfeiture of $3,000 guarantee but the Nevada students, with fraternity students taking the initiative, are determined there shall be no discrimination."

No action has yet been taken by Nevada officials except for a letter from the Athletic Board to Mississippi State asking for a "clarification" of the threat. The board is scheduled to meet Thursday or Friday to formulate a policy on the game.

The contract between the two schools calls for a $3,000 forfeit to be paid by the school cancelling the game for any reason. Another factor in the situation is the fact that Nevada's president, Robert O. Mosley, had previously accepted an invitation to be the principal speaker at the inauguration of the new Mississippi State president the night before the game.

Nevada's team has lost but one game, a 13-12 defeat by powerful St. Mary's of California last Sunday at 'Frisco. It leads the nation in forward passing offense with an average of 193.4 yards in five games. The two Negro backs have played a prominent role in the team's success. Bill Bass is the team's leading ground gainer and Horace Gillom, with a sensational punting average of 51 yards per try from the line of scrimmage, accounts for Nevada U's nation-leading average of 44.2 yards per punt.

Little known east of the Rockies, the Nevada teams have rolled up fine records for a small school. One of their recent graduates, Marion Motley, also a Negro back, is now the leading ground gainer and touchdown scorer of the All American Professional Conference. He plays for the league leading Cleveland Browns.

There have been many cases of Southern school officials "requesting" Northern colleges to leave their Negro players at home. Yet it has been amply proven that the Southern players themselves are no party to such lack of sportsmanship. Whenever Southern teams have come north to play teams on which there were Negro players, the best of relationships have existed. Several years ago the Southern Methodist (Dallas, Texas) team went to Los Angeles to play UCLA. The following week the members of the southern team wrote a stirring tribute to Kenny Washington, Negro UCLA All American Negro back, in their school paper.

On another occasion the University of North Carolina team played NYU in New York and the members of the Southern team unanimously voted Negro star Ed William the best fullback they had met all year. To the shame of NYU president Philip O. Badger and the school authorities several years later weakly yielded to the request of Missouri U. to keep Negro player Len Bates at home.

A few years ago Cornell played the U. S. Naval Academy down at Baltimore and it was "assumed" by someone or other that coach Snavely would leave his Negro player at Ithaca. The assumption turned out to be incorrect. The game was played, the crowd cheered, Baltimore's 1850 "tradition" was thrown in the ash can and that was that.

Every indication from Nevada is that the aroused student body will not tolerate any supine yielding to the Bilbo order from Mississippi State, $3,000 forfeit, presidential back-scratching or what have you to the contrary.

On the Scoreboard

By Lester Rodney

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. 63d Wed. 11-6-46

Nevada 7, Bilbo 0

THREE LONG CHEERS for the football team, coach, student body and Athletic Board of the University of Nevada! They told Mississippi State, Bilbo and all, what to do with the "request" to leave home two Negro stars, both of whom fought for their country.

Nevada thereby forfeits a $3,000 guarantee, takes a Saturday without football instead of a big lucrative intersectional game, and wins the respect of the nation. It also sets the proper procedure for all other colleges in dealing with these cowardly Ku Klux-like "requests." which have been tolerated too long.

Bilbo may run Mississippi State but Nevada doesn't run Nevada.

Opticians - Optometrists

"No Thanks, Miami!"

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Fri. 11-15-46

Syracuse Students Spurn Miami Bid

"A direct insult to our school" is the angry answer of Syracuse University students to a reported invitation from Miami U. to replace Penn State on the Miami schedule for a Nov. 29 football game.

The response came in an editorial in the **Daily Orange,** official student newspaper of Syracue. There has been no statement from the university's athletic officials, but the student reaction and that of the team members is strongly against dealing with a school which demands a lily white team from its opponents.

Penn State cancelled its game with Miami upon receipt of a request to leave home two Negro members of the team. This followed by two days a similar action on the part of Nevada U. in cancelling a scheduled game with Mississippi State.

Apparently seeking to fill the open date with an attractive intersectional game, Miami has already been turned down without comment by California University. The editorial in the **Daily Orange** is the first indication that Syracuse has likewise been approached.

There are no Negro players on this year's Syracuse team. Among those who have played football for Syracuse was Wilmeth Sidat Singh, All-Eastern halfback and star basketball player. Singh, a pilot, was killed during the war.

The partial text of the **Daily Orange** editorial, entitled "No, thanks, Miami!":

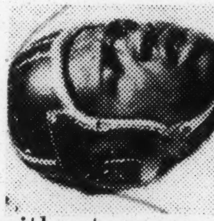
"'I'd rather see us drop our whole athletic program.' 'It's an insult to the university and the fine teams and coaches that have represented us.' 'I admire Penn State and hope we have the same courage to leave 'em flat.'

"Thus ran comments to Saturday's report that Miami wanted to play Syracuse as an alternate team because the Penn State-Miami game was dropped. The game was cancelled because Penn State has two Negroes on the team.

"That an institution of higher learning would entertain such a concept is disheartening. But that it carries the policy over to athletics represents the final distortion of a debased and corrupt viewpoint.

"That they chose Syracuse to replace Penn State represents a direct insult to our school and our athletic program. Unless Miami changes its athletic policy it would be better for all concerned if they were dropped from the realm of college athletics. It represents the worst type of fascism within our college program.

"We don't want an apology but we'd rather not have anything to do with the type of thinking that Miami represents."



H. Gillom

Thurs. 11-7-46

History—Horace Gillom, Nevada University's excellent Negro football player whose presence on the team caused cancellation of a game with Mississippi State, played in Kentucky during the war. . . . As capable in basketball as in football, Gillom helped Camp Breckenridge win the 5th Service Command cage championship in 1944. . . . At Camp Breckenridge two years Gillom was known as "Hoss" by fellow members of the 1570th Service Unit. . . . **Pat Delahanty** of The Times staff, was his sergeant "Hoss was a real man," recalls Pat. "He could do anything with a basketball or a football—but at work he was the slowest man in the unit."

The Courier-Journal Louisville Ky.

Penn State Drops Game

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

PHILADELPHIA

Refusing to bench its colored players in accordance with South-

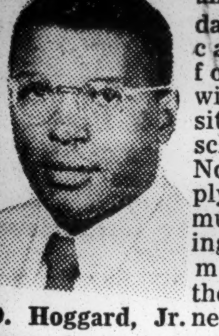
Nevada, Penn State Are Lauded For Refusal To Bow To "Jim Crow"

The Informer, Houston, Texas Sat. 11-16-46

NEW YORK.—An old southern "custom" took quite a beating last week when two crack northern football teams cancelled their scheduled football games at southern universities because they would not permit their boys to compete with teams having Negroes. The University of Nevada, with two Negro players, and Pennsylvania State college, with two players refused to leave any member of their team at home, and called off games with, respectively, Mississippi State college, and Miami university.

Their action was applauded in a warm telegram from Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, to each of the northern colleges who declined to bow to the unsportsmanlike stand of the southern universities.

Congratulating the presidents of the colleges for cancelling their schools' games rather than leave their Negro players at home, Mr. White also congratulated the students and alumni who refused to bow to th[e] prejudice in the fir[st] year after our victory in a wo[rld] war for human dignity and freedom."



D. Hoggard, Jr.

[Western] tradition, Penn State College announced Tuesday that it had cancelled the football game with the University of Miami scheduled for Nov. 29. In reply to a communication asking that colored members of the team be banned, Dr. Carl P. Scott, dean of the Physical Education School at Penn, informed officials of the Miami institution no such arrangements would be made.

"It is the policy of Penn State College," said Dr. Schott, "that any and all members of our football squad who are qualified be permitted to play. We will not change that policy."

Orange Bowl Feature

The game was scheduled for the Orange Bowl in Miami.

Penn State has two colored members on the squad, Wally Tripleit, a triple-threat sophomore back from LaMott, Pa.; and Dennie Hoggard Jr., an end from Philadelphia.

Triplett, shifted from tailback to wingback, has been an important cog in the Penn State offensive this year, starring in every game. Sat. 11-16-46

Beat Fordham 60-0

Against Fordham last week, the 19-year-old, 165-pound back, who formerly starred at Cheltenham High, shook lose for touchdown downs of 53 and 42 yards. Penn State, which has lost but one game out of the six played this season, toppled Fordham, 68-0.

Hoggard, a veteran and son of the pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, recently broke his hand. He played in every game until his injury.

On Monday, University of Nevada cancelled a Nov. 16 game with Mississippi State College because the latter refused to play against Horace Gillom, an end, and William (Bill) Bass, halfback, of Nevada.

Negro Grid Player Signs With Montreal Alouettes

8-24-46 New York, New York

Amsterdam News

By JIMMY DAVIES

MONTREAL—Just back from an extended tour of the United States coach-elect Lew Hayman of the Montreal Alouettes in the forthcoming Big Four grid wars, returned to Montreal Saturday after an extended talent-seeking tour.

He saw he admits, a lot of interesting pigskin prospects and "some of them will likely be here soon". He says naming them at the moment would endanger the deals.

But he did announce the signing of a highly rated Negro prospect in Jimmy Chambers. Sat.

Early in April a letter was handed to Hayman from a chap overseas tipping him off to a good grid prospect. Here's part of the letter:

"He is a young colored boy who played for the Fifth Canadian Division football team in the Netherlands, and was a standout even in comparison with Oville Burke and other good players. He was fast, a sure ball handler, and a magnificient tackler. I don't know where he is now, but his hometown was given as Montreal on the program last fall. His name is Chambers." Sat.

That was all to the letter, but that was enough to send Coach Lew working. He contacted friends overesas to see if they had heard or seen Chambers. Hayman was not very successful, but all the letters from overseas had high praise for the grid talent of the Montreal Negro. As the letters came in Hayman's interest in getting a look increased. He wrote to Ottawa trying to get Chambers' address. It was a slow process of detecting. 8-24-46

Saturday morning a heavy-set Negro walked into the Alouettes office asking for Lew Hayman. He said he wanted to play football and would like to try out with the team. Hayman asked him of past experience on the gridiron.

Didn't Play In School

"I did not play very much in school, concentrating mainly on track, but I did play some while overseas with the Fifth Canadian Division", the 21-year old Montrealer replied.

Hayman sat up and took notice. "Did you say Fifth Canadian Division? What's your name?"

"Chambers, Jimmy Chambers."

Hayman just grinned, opened a drawer where he kept the correspondence with its overseas contact on Chambers, thumbed them through and threw them into the waste paper basket.

Chambers, who is almost six foot two, weighs 195, was out with the Alouettes when they called their first workout on Monday at the Lower Canada college.

Fresnans Assail Oklahoma Stand

The Black-Dispatch

Oklahoma City, Okla

The action of the Oklahoma City University authorities in failing to assume the responsibility for the safety of the two Fresno State College Negro players was termed by William A. Bigby and Roy Calhoun, past commanders of State Center Post No. 511 of the American Legion, as a new blow affecting the American way of life.

Bigby said:

"Such an attitude on the part of these officials serves to undermine in no small degree the principles for which these boys and others of their race fought and died. Sat. 10-19-46

"The failure of the Oklahoma school to guarantee their safety displays a weakness not only on the part of the officials, but casts a reflection on the tolerance of the State of Oklahoma.

"The action is inexcusable and certainly does not contribute to the inter racial movement that has become so prevalent since VJ Day."

Calhoun said:

"The whole thing is a most regrettable incident and it is hoped that steps will be taken to prevent any further occurence in which Negro players are barred from full participation in all fields of sport.

"I admire the position taken by Coach Bradshaw in this controversy for he has evidence all the principles of fair play and good sportsmanship."

Calhoun and Bigby are representatives of the Legion post comprising Negro veterans of both Wolrd Wars I and II.

Block That Kick!

To the Editor: PM

There are some universities where the individual's ability as a person is held in greater concern than his race, color or creed. One of these is Nevada University. Here they do not just tolerate the Negro, but put him on a footing of equailty. Mississippi State refuses to play Nevada if the two Negro players on the Neveda team are allowed to play against her Nov. 6. With the possible loss of a $3000 guarantee for the contest, a solid bloc of Nevada's fraternities and students are determined that the game shall not be held unless the true democratic spirit of the school is represented.

IRVING HARBUS

New York. New York, N.Y. Tues. 11-5-46

NEVADA NIXES JIMCRO GAME

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

Students, progressive citizens and ex-GIs of Reno are celebrating a great victory. Because of them, the University of Nevada's athletic board yesterday told Mississippi State's moguls to go play themselves, rather than submit to Jimcrow rule and compete in the South Saturday without Nevada's two Negro grid stars. Wed. 11-6-46

The Nevada board voted unanimously to cancel the game and stick by halfback Bill Bass and end Horace Gillom, the two Negro gridders whom Mississippi State's athletic director, C. R. Noble, said could not play in Starkville.

While Nevada will make a formal request for return of its $3,000 forfeit, the school's no-play decision stands whether Mississippi returns the money or not.

The students and townspeople of Reno deserve the lion's share of credit for this latest victory over Jimcrow. Since learning last week of Mississippi's insistence that Gillom and Bass could not play in Bilbo's state, the Reno progressives never stopped punching for a democratic answer from the Nevada officials. Street rallies, campus protests and nationwide publicity highlighted the issue. Nevada U. athletic bigwigs were urged not to duplicate the shame of Fresno State College officials who, when faced with a similar Jimcrow edict from the University of Oklahoma City last month, left its Negro players home rather than cancel the game and lose its $3,000 forfeit.

Nevada U.'s answer yesterday knocked the vestiges of sports Jimcrow for another 100-yard loss.

Today's statistics showed Nevada's Negro end, Horace Gillom, jumping into first place among the nation's gridiron punters with a 44-yard average for 20 kicks.

LEVI JACKSON AND YALE COACH HOWIE ODELL

Harvard Scout Called Levi Jackson Better Than Glenn Davis

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-30-46

CAMBRIDGE, Mass — (ANP) — Harry Jacunski, assistant coach at Harvard who scouted Yale football all season for Saturday's game, reported Levi Jackson, Yale's star, better than Army's Glenn Davis in some respects.

"In an open field," Jacunski told his superiors, "Jackson is harder to bring down than Davis. One man can't stop him. It takes one to knock him off his stride and a second to bring him down."

Jacunski speaks with authority because as Notre Dame's end coach last season he watched Dávis in action several times.

"Davis may be a little faster," he said, "though Jackson is a sprint champion in his own right. Davis is a better pass-receiver. But Jackson punts, runs, passes, and he's only a freshman."

Frosh Fullback Sparks Eli's Victory Drive

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-30-46

63d

Passes to 1st Touchdown, Sets Up 2nd as Team Stages Rally

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Yale's power-laden football squad downed a strong and rugged Harvard eleven here at Soldiers Field, Saturday, by a 27-14 count as the fleet-footed Levi Jackson once again sparked the Bulldog attack with an outstanding display of running, kicking and passing.

Although Jackson did not break away for any of his usual long jaunts, his continuous bucking of the Crimson forward wall for yardage necessary to make first downs, was a standout feature of this classic struggle.

This game will go down in the annals of history as a milestone in the meetings of these two schools, for it marked the first time that both teams were interracial.

Chester Pierce, who hails from Glen Cove, N.Y., performed for Harvard at right tackle, although he saw but a few minutes of action toward the close of the contest.

Harvard has had other mixed elevens but Yale has not.

Throughout the opening stanza, Jackson didn't look like himself, as he missed a kick that slithered off his foot and rolled forward for only three yards and missed a tackle that meant Harvard's second score. But he never lost his poise, and in the second quarter he caught on fire and was all over the field, constantly setting the Crimson back on its heels with zooming punts and terrific line smashes.

Passes to Score

Levi figured prominently in the Bulldogs' first tally with his passing, and then personally set up the next.

Trailing 14-0 at the beginning of the second quarter, the Elis came to life. Harvard, attempting to kick out of danger after Jackson had shot a 60-yard punt to her 14, booted to midfield where young Levi pulled the ball down with one hand and returned it to the Crimson 34. After he and Nadherny on successive carries had placed the ball on the Johnnies' 17, Jackson started out on what appeared to be an end run. The locals fell for it, hook, line and sinker, for they were all after Levi, who was running wide to the right.

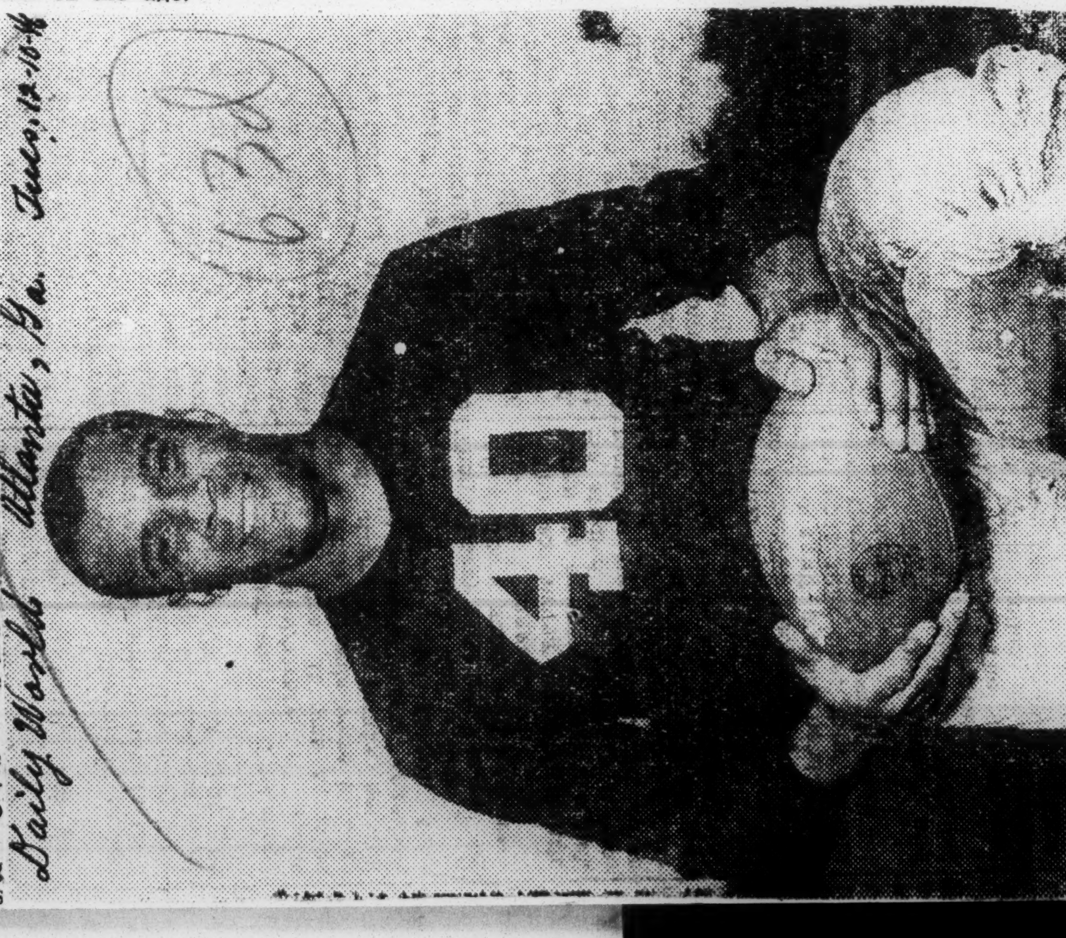
As the entire red-shirted enemy team closed in on him, he let go a beautiful pass that floated lazily into the arms of Art Fitzgerald, who was standing all alone in the end zone.

Has Been Target

With two minutes left to play in the half and fourth down and 7 to go, Jackson powerhoused his way 11 yards through the line to the Harvard 11, thereby setting the stage for Nadherny, who bucked over for the Elis' second tally.

Harvard still led 14-13, but from there on, they were never in the ball game as Levi and his mates ran roughshod over the turf to score two more touchdowns.

Jackson has taken a terrific pounding in each of the Bulldogs' nine contests as the opposing teams have been highly respectful of his running ability and have consistently used four and five men on him alone to keep him in check. But as the scores have indicated, they haven't been successful. He has been classed by sportswriters as the greatest runner of the age.



RECEIVES COVETED LOWE MEMORIAL TROPHY—Levi Jackson, Yale's sensational back was awarded the coveted Lowe Memorial Trophy, at a meeting of the Gridiron Club, at Hotel Lenox, Boston, Mass. He was accompanied to Boston by his father and Coach Howie Odell, the Yale mentor was on hand for the presentation. Jackson is the first freshman and first Negro to receive the trophy, which is awarded annually to New England's outstanding college football player. Jackson, a native of New Haven, Conn., is a graduate of Hillhouse High School. During the season, he ranked third in college rushing with more than 800 yards to his credit, an average of six yards for his 134 tries; averaged 40.6 yards on punts; returned opponents kicks for 250 yards; completed 11 out of 15 passes, three for touchdowns; intercepted 2 passes; and topped Yale scores with 10 touchdowns. The Lowe Memorial Trophy was first awarded in 1939 to perpetuate the memory of the late George H. Lowe, Jr., who achieved distinction as a college and professional football player, as well as a soldier in World War 1.

Gridiron Greats Honor Jackson

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 12-14-46

Yale Freshman Star Graciously Accepts New England Award

By GEORGE MOUZON

BOSTON, Mass.—Reminiscent of the days of William Lewis, Fritz Pollard, Johnny Shelbourne and other New England greats of the gridiron, Yale's Levi Jackson was presented the George Bulger Lowe Trophy Wednesday night at a supper tendered in his honor by the Gridiron Club of Boston, at Hotel Lenox.

Seated among some of the greatest names in the annals of sport and hearing them tell of his prowess on the gridiron, Levi was as ever the same shy, unassuming fellow who won the respect and admiration of lovers of clean and true sportsmanship the country over.

The dinner was presided over by U.S. Tax Commissioner Dennis Delaney, who is also president of the club. Seated at the honor table with Levi Jackson were:

Dick Harlow, coach of Harvard; Swede Nelson, one of the all-time white greats of the gridiron also coach at Harvard; Dan Kelly, Mass. State physical education director; Herb Kopf, coach of the pro Boston Yanks; Dr. Silas F. Taylor, housing commissioner; Tuss McLaurty, coach at Dartmouth; Jim Britt, widely known radio sports announcer; Reggie Root, assistant coach at Yale; Paul Swasfield, outstanding football official, who worked Yale-Harvard game.

Owen's Tribute

The highlightin of the after dinner speaking was reached when Jim Britt, declared that Steve Owens of the N.Y. Giants of the National Football League had told him that he'd give Levi a job with the Giants the minute that Yale released him, if Jackson wanted it. 12-14-46

Reggie Root, stated that, he was glad a colored boy was playing on Yale's team and his wish was that he had more.

The gathering rose as one man when the trophy was presented and it took ten minutes before the cheers died out and Levi could express his simple and humble gratitude, stating that only one third belonged to him and the other two thirds to his coaches and his teammates.

Jackson, Yale Star, Makes 3 Touchdowns Against Brown

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 11-16-46

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—(NNPA)—Levi Jackson, Yale fullback, accounted for three touchdowns and passed 19 yards to Vandy Kirk, a halfback, for another in a game in the Bowl Saturday afternoon in which Yale routed the Brown eleven, 49 to 0.

Jackson excelled at running the opposition dizzy all afternoon. His contributions to Yale's offensive power might have been even greater had he not repeatedly slipped and fell while cutting sharply in the open. His best effort came early in the third period when he broke through the middle of the Brown line and ran 75 yards to tally.

Six plays after Yale had recovered a Brown fumble on Brown's 47 in the first period, Jackson scampered around the Bruin left end from two yards out.

His pass to Kirk, thrown off the end of what appeared to be a wide end run at Brown's left on fourth down, was the first play of the second quarter and capped a 51-yard drive.

He made his 74-yard run on the third play of the second half, going through Brown's right tackle on a cross buck, cutting sharply to his right, and going all the way without a hand being laid on him.

His final effort came with the ball on Brown's 8. He found a big hole at Brown's right tackle and dodged his way into the end zone untouched.

Jackson Aids Yale To Win

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Runs And Passes To Help Beat Harvard

Sat. 11-30-46

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Levi Jackson, Yale University's Negro fullback, was the standout in Yale's 27 to 14 victory over Harvard here Saturday, Nov. 23, in the 63rd game between the two schools. A sellout crowd of 57,000 jammed historic Harvard Stadium. The majority of them were here to watch Jackson in action.

Harvard scored twice in the first period, both times as a result of poor punts by Jackson. Harvard had stopped Yale's rush attempts on the Eli's 25 and Jackson's punt went only to the Harvard 45. Harvard scored after nine plays.

Later another Jackson punt landed on the Harvard 45. Two passes, one for 30 and the other for 10 gave Harvard a 14 point lead after Dravaric place kicked his second extra point.

• • •

THEN MR. JACKSON AND Yale got busy. Levi took a Yale punt by snaring the ball with one hand in midfield and ran it back to the Harvard 38. Nadherny took it twice and Jackson once for a first down on the Harvard 16. Jackson then passed to Fitzgerald for a touchdown.

After a Harvard punt, Jackson made five. On the second play he reeled over another five-yard gain. Three plays later Jackson made 10 and a first down on the Harvard 10. Nadherny went over for the touchdown and the extra point left Yale trailing by one point as the halftime score read Harvard, 14; Yale, 13.

Then Yale's steamroller with Jackson playing an important role in the ground gaining scored two touchdowns and two points after to win 27 to 14.

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In this corner

Negro Star Due to Crack Yale Eleven

By Bill Mardo *Daily Worker*

Levi Jackson is the name . . . and you'll be hearing much of it in the coming year. He's the young Negro kid recently accepted at Yale, a triple-threat fullback who's a cinch to become the first member of his race to ever play varsity football at dear old Eli. *New York, N. Y.*

People who know all there is to know about the game of punt and pass, have already gone all-out for the kid. Former grid great Reggie Root, who coached the Negro youngster at Hillhouse High—and who is now line-coach at Yale—said recently: "Jackson is a natural. Right now, as a crude schoolboy, Jackson is better than most college backs. Levi should equal the exploits of Ted Coy, Steve Philbin, Mal Stevens, Brinck Thorne, Bruce Caldwell and Clint Frank." *8-15-46*

Such praise must be deserved, for young Levi Jackson isn't just a highly-touted "unknown." He held down the fullback slot for the Camp Lee team, and there are many pro footballers who went up against Levi in inter-service competition and they remember first-hand the wonderful ability of the Negro schoolboy. Hooks Mylin, the man who piloted the Camp Lee eleven, has also gone on record with the statement that Levi Jackson could crack any pro outfit in the country. *Thursday*

Though football is his specialty, Jackson made quite a name for himself at Hillhouse where he was an all-around star performer. After his graduation, there were many colleges in the country who eagerly hoped to snare the triple-threat whiz, and they say none other than Brud Holland, that great all-American Negro end at Cornell several years back, was kinda hoping for a while that Levi would hook up with the Big Red team at Ithaca. But Brud is really tickled pink now that Levi Jackson has chosen Yale, for, as Holland has declared, it's far more important for the young Negro gridder to crack the hitherto almighty Jimcrow ban on the Yale varsity elevens.

And that is, of course, the all-important issue. That next year for the first time in Eli history, a Negro athlete will be tearing holes into the enemy opposition for the Bulldog team. *New York, New York*

Another jimcrow wall is on the verge of tumbling down. . . .

Another Jimcrow wall is on the verge of tumbling lynch-loving forces who now desperately seek to stir up a vast offensive of terror and murder against the Negro citizens of America.

Another step forward in the critical battle for full democracy in the world of sports where, it must be admitted, the fight against Jimcrow is making more advances and scoring more successes than in any other phase of life.

From Joe Louis to Jesse Owens to Jackie Robinson to Kenny Washington and Woody Strode . . . and soon, to Levi Jackson—the latest in a growing line of Negro athletes who are sending the Hitler heilers and Bilbo boosters and white supremacy demagogues in the sports scene reeling backward under the impetus of end-Jimcrow blows being banged out in the ring, in organized baseball, in pro-football and soon at haloed Yale. *8-15-46*

Yes, the walls will come tumbling down.

For it's men like Louis, Robinson, Washington and Jackson who are proving in life what the final answer will be to those who lynched two Negro couples in Monroe, Georgia—who gouged out the eyes of war vet Isaac Woodard in a South Carolina town—who hypocritically accuse the Negro "defendants" in the current Columbia, Tennessee, trials—who strive with might and main to turn America onto the road of lynch, pogroms and fascism.

But the vast bulk of decent thinking Americans who cheer Jackie Robinson on . . . who love Joe Louis . . . and who will soon be raving about a Negro kid named Levi Jackson—yes, those people won't casually permit Bilbo, Talmadge and their more silent supporters to turn the lights off in America.

Levi Jackson Scores Another Touchdown

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Thurs. 10-24-46

ITHACA, N. Y.—(NNPA)— Levi Jackson, Yale's great full back, scampered eleven yards around Cornell's right end to climax what amounted to a goal-to-goal march in a drama-packed football battle on Schoelkopf Field, Saturday afternoon that ended in a 6-6 tie.

Jackson counted for the Elis in the second quarter. Norman Dawson, the man-in-motion in Cornells 'T tied the count for Cornell in the third period.

Yale had to stop Cornell twice inside the one-yard line in the last twenty seconds to end the game in a deadlock. The Cornell threat came after Jackson kicked out of bounds on Cornells 45. A Yale offside penalty moved the ball to mid field, and Jack Burns, Cornell quarterback, pitched a deep pass to Dawson. The remainder of the distance came to Cornell when Yale was penalized for unnecessary roughness. Two Cornell attempts to penetrate the Yale line failed. The game ended before Cornell could try again.

DRIVE STARTS ON GOAL LINE

Jacksons touchdown came after Art Fitzgerald, Yale half back, intercepted a pass on his own goal line and ran it back to his own 26 from his own 45 down the right sideline to the Cornell 35.

He carried the ball 20 times from scrimmage and contributed 97 of Yale's 194 yards gained from rushing.

An extra time out cost Cornell five yards and Fitzgerald made a first down on his first rush.

Jackson gained only four yards inside. Fitzgerald picked up one on a cross buck. Bob Furse, Yale quarterback tossed a pass to Fitzgerald for another first down just beyond midfield. Jackson went around the right side and Fred Nadherny, Yale right half back, cross-bucked thru the left guard to the Cornell 36.

Jackson fumbled and recovered a bad pass for a 5-yard loss. A pass from Furse to Fitzgerald put the ball on the Cornell 7. Nadherny gained less than a yard. Fitzgerald failed to advance the ball and an offside penalty for Yale followed.

Then Jackson took the ball on a reverse from Furse and could not be stopped on his powerful twisting run around the Cornell right flank for the score.

Late in the third stanza Jackson brought the crowd of 27,000 to its feet with a thrilling 20 yard run

NEGRO STAR SCORES TWICE FOR THE BLUE

The Times New York, N.Y. Sun. 9-29-46

Speeds 59 Yards and Plunges 6 in Opening Game Before 21,000 in Yale Bowl

VICTORS MARCH 82 YARDS

Tataranowicz Culminates the Parade in First Quarter by Going Over From the 8

STATISTICS OF THE GAME

	Yale	K.Point
First downs	14	6
Yards gained rushing	229	87
Forward passes	18	24
Forwards completed	10	7
Yards gained, forwards	121	44
Forwards intercepted by	1	0
*Av. dist. of punts, yds.	34	25
Run-back of punts, yds.	19	0
Opponent fumbles recov.	2	3
Yards lost, penalties	60	85

*From line of scrimmage.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Sept. 28—Levi Jackson, Yale's sensational Negro freshman, returned to Yale Bowl today, the scene of several of his dazzling scholastic gridiron exhibitions, and sparked the Elis to a 33-0 triumph over the Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy eleven before a crowd of 21,000.

Jackson's debut was in accordance with the script, as the 190-pound Blue yearling contributed a spectacular 59-yard touchdown jaunt late in the first period and added another from almost six yards out early in the third session.

It took the Elis most of the first quarter to grind out the first score which Vic Tataronowicz carried across from the 8-yard line, culminating an 82-yard advance—but the second tally came a few minutes later with startling suddenness.

Intercepts Kings Point Pass

Lopin' Levi, as he was known in his New Haven Hillhouse High days, but who will probably hereinafter be referred to as the Blue Bomber, started the drive by intercepting a Kings Point pass on the Yale eight-yard line and running it back to the 30.

Tex Furse rifled an aerial to Vinny Lynch for a seven-yard gain, and the former on a fake went over his right tackle for a first down on the Eli 41. Then it happened. Jackson, making his fourth carry of the day, swept off his right flank, was hemmed in near the sidelines, but suddenly cut to the inside and sprinted down the middle into the end zone.

Ed Michalski, Mariner halfback, was in hot pursuit at the 15-yard stripe, but the Bulldog freshman feinted cleverly as Michalski attempted a diving tackle from behind, and cantered over the goal line unmolested. Furse, who converted the extra point after the initial tally, was wide with his second attempt.

Yale annexed its third touchdown in the second session after Jack McCrane kicked outside on the Mariners' 37-yard line. On the first play Furse tossed a pass to Jack Roderick on the four-yard line and the Eli end evaded Mark McKie's clutch to score in the corner of the field. Again Furse added the extra point to make the score 20—0.

Williams' Kick Is Blocked

Fritz Barzilauskas set the next tally up by blocking Paul Williams' fourth-down kick and the Elis took over on the Mariners' 14. Furse passed to John Setear, who made a leaping catch for a 6-yard gain. Jackson and Ferd Nadherny carried to the six-inch line where Yale lost 5 yards on an offside penalty, as Nadhernay drove over the Kings Point goal line. On the first play, Jackson bolted over left tackle for the score and Furse's placement attempt at conversion misfired.

Jack Ferguson tallied the final Yale touchdown after a last quarter advance from the Kings Point 43-yard mark. With the ball 1 yard away from touchdown territory, Ferguson charged into the end zone, but Yale was offside once more, and after Nadherny hit tackle for four yards, Ferguson went over right guard for the score. Furse added his third extra point.

The line-up: *9-29-46*

YALE (33)		KINGS POINT (0)
Roderick	L.E.	Hester
Schuler	L.T.	Wolfe
Barzilauskas	L.G.	Lowe
Elwell	C.	Wenger
Prchlik	R.G.	Fecteau
Hollingshead	R.T.	Angulo

Conway	R.E.	Allen
Furse	Q.B.	McCrane
Tataranowicz	L.H.	Webster
Kirk	R.H.	Michalski
Jackson	F.B.	Smith

Yale	7	13	6	7	—33
Kings Point	0	0	0	0	— 0

Touchdowns—Tataranowicz, Jackson 2, Roderick, Ferguson (substitute for Tataranowicz). Points after touchdowns—Furse 3.

SUBSTITUTES

Yale—Ends: Lynch, Setear, Lilley, Singer, Palmer; tackles: Davidson, Pivcevich, Whitridge, Strype; guards: Frank, Cipolaro, Florentine, Devitt, Whiting, Jabolinski; centers: Montano, Larson; backs: Barnsdale, Smith, Scovil, Robertson, Denezzo, Ferguson, Wagster, Nadherny, Weiner, Carey.

Kings Point—Ends: Rudd, Hegeman, Doucette, Allen, Monahan; tackles: Loesberg, Cramer, Smyth; guards: Borowsky, Allman, Reynolds, Carl, Morasco; centers: Baker, Jennings; backs: McKie, Viau, Williams, Groover, Kersten, Simmen, McCarthy, Wenzel, Blowers.

Referee—Arthur J. Barry, Princeton. Umpire—D. Lee Daley, Boston College. Linesman—Emmons I. Bowen, Holy Cross. Field judge—Lawrence C. Lobaugh, Alfred.

JACKSON TURNS TO BOOKS

The Times

Yale Football Star Will Skip Other Sports for Studies

New York, N.Y.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Nov. 26 (AP)—Levi Jackson, the freshman fullback who led the Yale football team in scoring, said today he was sorry the season was over, but that he was passing up other sports to concentrate on the books. *Wed*

"I'd like to play all year 'round," the first Negro football player in Yales history told an interviewer, "but I guess I've got plenty of studying to last me until next fall."

Jackson was a stellar basketball and track performer at Hillhouse High School here, but he's not going out for either sport at Yale.

"I just want to get on that Dean's List this winter," he said.

Jackson deprecated his rushing performance during Yale's nine games this season, most of which were marked by long touchdown runs on his part, and said the burly Yale forwards deserved most of the credit for shaking him loose. *11-27-46*

"I love that line," he remarked in praise of Jack Roderick, Fritz Barzilauskas, Dick Hollingshead and the other heavy operatives.

Grid Star Displaces Eli in Yale Chant

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md. Sat. 9-14-46

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—So sensational has been the work of Levi Jackson, freshman back from Hillhouse High School, in pre-season drills that the football folks at Yale are in a dither.

Coach Howie Odell has already placed him in the Bulldogs' first team backfield, assigning him to the fullback position.

Cheerleaders, incidentally, are reported hard at work on a revision of the historic Eli Yale chant to make it go: "Levi, Levi Levi Yale!"

Injury Fails to Stop Levi's 22-Yard Gallop

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

By JOSEPH FISHER, JR.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—Though "ganged" by five opposing players in the first half of the games, to suffer a recurrence of a head injury sustained a week ago, Levi Jackson, freshman backfield sensation, turned in a spectacular 22-yard touchdown gallop for the final score as Yale registered a 27-6 triumph over Colgate before 45,000 here Saturday.

Jackson was kayoed by a swarm of white-shirted Colgate tacklers just before the end of the first half in a pile-up that looked suspicious. He was able to leave the field under his own power, however. *Sat. 10-12-46*

This did not daunt the brilliant freshman fullback.

For the better part of the afternoon, Coach Andy Kerr's razzle-dazzle grid huskies had young Levi bottled up, using three or four men to stop him each time, but midway through the 4th quarter, Jackson tired of this cat-and-the-mouse play, and tore savagely through the entire Colgate team, going 22 yards to score Yale's fourth and final touchdown of the ball game.

Reverses Field

He started on what appeared to be an end to end run to the right, but instead he turned around and ran wide to the left faking the ball on a short lateral from the quarterback.

Instantly, the Colgate defense, realizing they had been tricked, shifted over to stop the New Haven speed-merchant, but Jackson wasn't to be stopped.

As he came around toward the left side-line it appeared as though he would be forced out of bounds by three Colgate players, but instead he came to a complete halt and 'then' reversed his field once more.

Another enemy player grabbed the elusive Levi four yards from the goal line, but Jackson wrenched himself loose and proceded across the double stripe.

Jackson Romps to 3 Touchdowns as Yale Pastes Brown 49-0

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 11-16-46

By JOSEPH B. FISHER, Jr.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—The Yale Bulldogs with Levi Jackson, their freshman fullback sensation, in the starring role, romped to a 49-0 victory over the Brown University Bears of Providence, R.I., before 40,000 persons here Saturday afternoon.

Personally accounting for three touchdowns, one on a spectacular 74-yard gallop, and setting up a fourth tally by way of an aerial to Kirk, Jackson proved to be the sparkplug of a Yale team that dealt the Bruins their worst defeat in the long series of football clashes between the two schools.

The freshman star opened the scoring spree in the first quarter shortly after he had kicked from his own end zone to the Brown 45 yard line. A Bruin fumble and a Yale recovery started the ball in the other direction and the march was climaxed with Jackson going over the double stripe, eluding the last defender by leaping over him onto pay dirt.

In the second quarter, Levi shot an end-zone pass to Vandy Kirk for the second Eli score.

About midway in the second period Levi caught a Brown punt on his own 15 and outran two opposing tacklers to drive to his own 35. On the play after the next, five husky Bear stalwarts smothered him on the 37-yard line of Yale using tactics that weren't in the book. The crowd responded with loud hissing and booing and the referee with a 15-yard penalty against Brown for unnecessary roughness, putting the leather on the Bruin 48.

Jackson's most spectacular dash of the game came shortly after the opening of the second half when on the third play of the period he broke loose in a dazzling 74-yard jaunt, sailing into the end zone for his second score of the afternoon.

Jackson's final marker came as a climax to a 32-yard Yale march. He knifed his way over from the nine-yard line, chalking up his third tally of the day.

Raves for Jackson, Yale's Negro Star

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y. Thurs. 9-19-46

Levi Jackson, the first Negro to crack the Yale football team has already received rave notices from the press—and this, before he's begun to really show his stuff in regular competition. Sports scribes were invited to New Haven the other day to watch the 20-year-old phenom in a scrimmage session. The feather-footed fullback promptly dazzled his large audience with two touchdown dashes of 80 and 20 yards respectively.

(The Daily Worker sports page was the first paper in the city to carry news of Jackson, when sports editor Bill Mardo did a column on him six weeks ago, predicting a great college career for this pioneer against grid Jim-crow at Eli.)

'OLD ELI' LOSES, BUT LEVI STARS

The Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 10-19-46

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Old Eli's brilliant "streak of quicksilver" lived up to all advance notices here Saturday by turning in a sizzling 86-yard dash for one touchdown and paving the way for two others, despite the fact that Columbia came from behind to beat Yale 28 to 20.

Not only did the great Levi turn in one of the most brilliant runs ever witnessed in the Yale Bowl when he received a kick-off and raced down the field in sensational, Albie Booth fashion, to score a touchdown after an 86-yard gallop, but he set the stage for two other tallies.

Jackson, with runs of 19 and 28 yards, brought the pigskin in striking distance and Fred Nadherny carried the oval into "the promised land" for touchdowns.

Levi Jackson, football star from New Haven's Hillhouse High, has enrolled at Yale. Will he become the first Negro to ever crack an Eli eleven? *Daily Worker New York*

Yale Ivy Title Hinges on Levi

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Fri. 11-22-46

Pressure will rest heavily on Levi Jackson's broad shoulders tomorrow. Because of his phenomenal feats in his freshman year at Yale, the Eli are slight favorites to down rugged Harvard and cop the Ivy League championship at Cambridge tomorrow.

But Levi has a way of wearing pressure well. The first Negro grider to crack the Yale varsity, Levi has more than lived up to his advance publicity. The mercury-toed kid from Hillhouse High and Camp Lee is the leading Yale back in rushing, scoring and punting. His total yardage gained is more than double that of any other Eli backfield man. Levi has ripped across for 10 touchdowns, and up to the Princeton game, the statistics showed him gaining 613 yards in 99 tries for an average of 6.2 yards per buck.

Jackson is also top Yale booter, with an average of 39.8 for his 18 punts. It goes without saying his 60 points scored is also high for the Bulldogs.

LEVI JACKSON

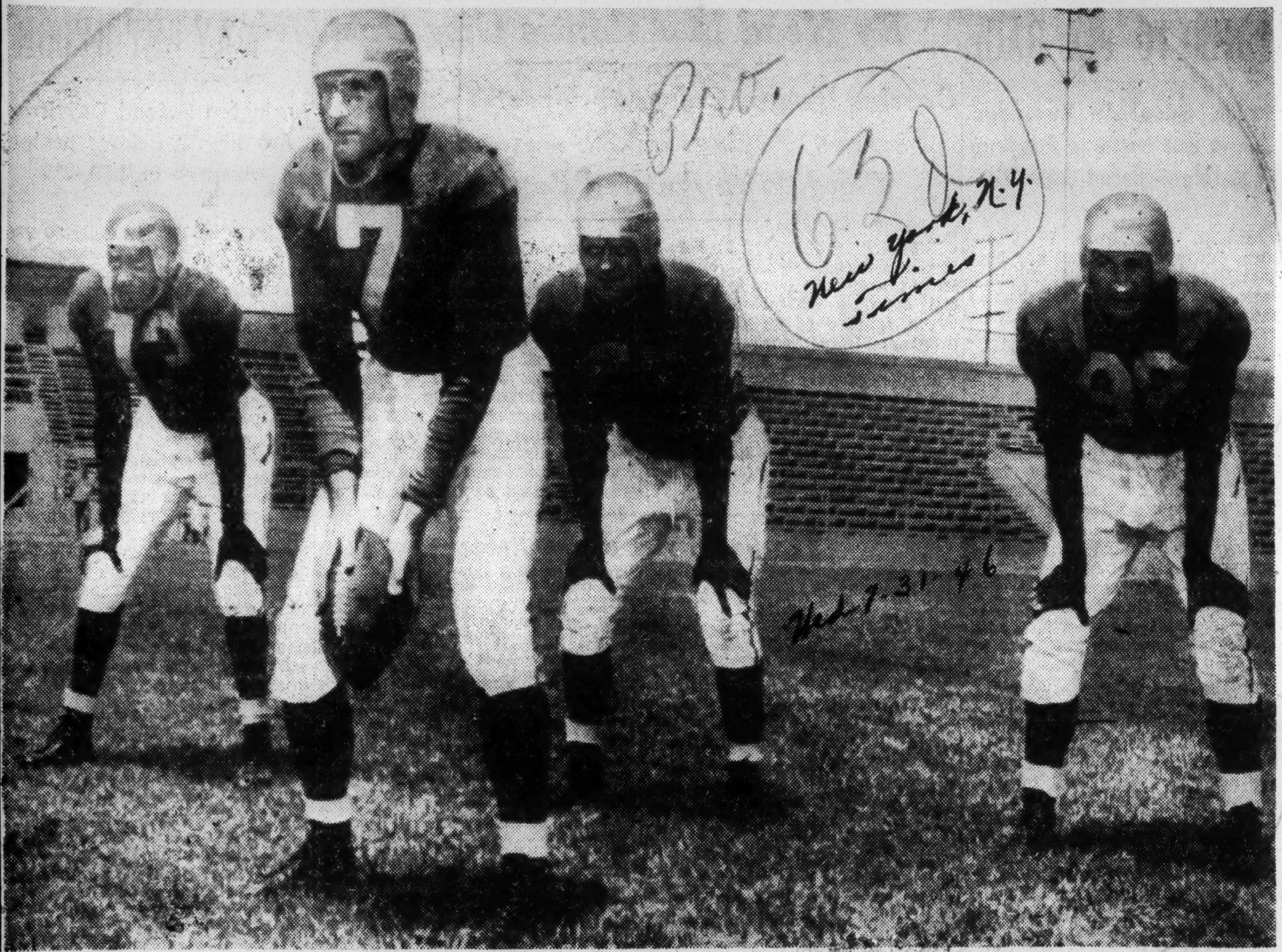
Yes, Levi faces a big test tomorrow in the solidly-stacked Harvard line. The Crimson forward wall has yielded only six touchdowns in eight games. Beaten only by Rutgers, Harvard boasts wins over Connecticut, Tufts, Princeton, Coast Guard, Dartmouth, Brown and Princeton.

Yale was beaten by Columbia in a story-book finish, and was tied by Cornell early in the season. But if comparative scores mean anything, Yale holds a marked advantage in having tallied far more decisive wins than its rival over such mutual opponents as Dartmouth, Princeton and Brown.

But as we said at the outset, Levi Jackson was the big difference. Levi's capable side-kick, Vandy Kirk, may be out of action tomorrow—and Coach Howie Odell hopes that returning Art Fitzgerald will be able to fill the gap alongside Jackson.

63d 1946 Professional

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS TRAINING FOR NEW SEASON



The backfield of the Los Angeles Rams in first workout at the training camp at Compton, Calif. In the foreground is Quarterback Bob Waterfield. The others are (left to right) Kenny Washington, Mike Holovak and Tom Farmon.

Associated Press Wirephoto

In this corner

The Worker

Cleveland Coach Rates Motley Over Doc

New York, N.Y. Sun. 11-17-46

By Bill Mardo

MARION MOTLEY is a name whispered of in the pro All-America Conference. Like the college boys awedly discuss Doc Blanchard. So students, today's problem has to do with this question: Who is the greater fullback, the powerful Negro star of the Cleveland Browns—or the bone-breaking blockbuster of the Army unbeatens?

This scribe won't presume to judge one against the other, aside from saying the obvious—both are tremendously talented athletes. Another good reason for letting somebody else do the speaking, is the fact that West Point discriminates against the Worker and stubbornly refuses to grant

us working press privileges. All we've seen of Blanchard has come in those one minute now-you-see-him, now-you-don't movie newsreels. So far as Marion Motley is concerned, we caught him one rainy Saturday night at Yankee Stadium when the Browns came into town for their only local shot. The turf was mud-sogged, the rain came down in buckets, and Motley didn't get away for any of those long spectacular dashes he pulls week in and week out.

MARION MOTLEY

Generally, it's unfair comparing a college star with an older, experience-wise play-for-pay gridder. But such is the phenomenal prowess of Felix Blanchard . . and such is the tremendous interest in Marion Motley, that coaches in football business can't refrain from talking about the respective merits of football's two most outstanding fullbacks.

Paul Brown, the man who coached Motley at Great Lakes and who now pilots him and the other Cleveland Brown gridders, plainly feels Motley is better than Blanchard. "I like that game-wrecker," says Brown "and I think I've got him in Motley." Does Brown mean that Doc Blanchard isn't a game-wrecker. "No, but Motley is faster at it. He's got the speed that can be turned on in dynamic sudden bursts."

To prove his point, Paul Brown tells an interesting story of the foot-races between Motley and Grover Klemmer at Great Lakes. Klemmer holds the official world's record for the 440-yard dash (46.6) and has trotted the 100 in 9.7. Okay, so every night after the scrimmage sessions Klemmer would go against Motley in a 40-yard dash. And the Negro fullback won all the time.

That's the kind of foot talent, says Paul Brown, that gives Motley the edge over Blanchard. Of course, we've seen Doc run the short sprints at Madison Square Garden during the indoor track season, and believe me, the big guy can go. If we're to chime in on this debate at all, we'd certainly side with Paul Brown, though. If for no other reason than Motley's longer experience. That's what gives any pro standout the edge over any college All-American.

In this corner

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

Reader Rates Doc Over Motley

Tues. 11-19-46

By Bill Mardo

A BRONX READER challenges our recent column in the one-star edition of The Worker which dealt with this theme motif: Who's the greatest fullback now — Doc Blanchard or Marion Motley? Actually we gave the floor to Cleveland coach Paul Brown who sided with his Negro star because of his greater speed. Our slight observation also favored Motley over the great Doc if only for his longer experience. Something which generally gives any standout play-for-pay gridder an edge over any All-American who is still learning the game in collegiate competition.

But no, t'aint so, says Bronxite Dick Kaplan and here's his argument red-hot from yesterday's mail-bag:

"Dear Bill:

"Dig in and prepare to hold your lines because you've got a fight on your hands concerning your rating Marion Motley over Felix Blanchard of Army. As a steadfast Army fan I am quite sure that Doc is the best fullback in football today and possibly one

MARION MOTLEY

of the greatest of all time. When you mention Blanchard it's unwise to think only in terms of running ability—because according to Steve Owen, Clark Shaughnessy and Ed McKeever, Blanchard is Mr. It as far as line crackers go. These coaches are, in my humble opinion, less biased in their judgment than Paul Brown, who will naturally side with his athletes.

"First of all, the subject of speed is not in Motley's favor. As you say, Doc Blanchard is a fine sprinter and what's even more important, he has terrific muzzle velocity—generates awesome power even before hitting the line of scrimmage. I doubt that Motley has this drive—few have. Once in the open, big Felix is an expert broken-field traveler, changing directions with amazing dexterity for a big man, and making good use of every inch of turf. I admit that in all of the above material, the battle is close, close enough for a good dispute. However, now we come to the other tasks of a T formation fullback, that of paving the way for his mates and disposing of enemy ball carriers. It's here that the Army All-Everything forges ahead. Can Motley do the artistic blocking job that Doc performs with such regularity? Is Motley the capable pass defender that is Doc Blanchard? Can Motley go get those long aerials like his Cadet rival? I think not. Besides his fullback chores, Doc is a fine runner to the outside and has proven so on numerous occasions. I don't believe Motley does any effective toting around that ends or through the tackles on the famed T formation cutback play.

"I don't deny Motley's greatness, but I do claim that Blanchard, despite his comparative inexperience, is the best all-around line cracker in the business today. Let's hope for the best of luck for both boys. They deserve it.

"Sincerely, RICHARD KAPLAN."

* * *

Well, Dick, it seems to us that you ask and answer a lot of questions in slightly one-sided fashion. You're right in saying speed alone isn't sufficient cause to give Motley the nod over Blanchard. Fact is, Paul Brown mentioned Motley's foot flying as only one asset for rating him over the pile-driving Army fullback. But it certainly stands to reason that any man who leads the All-America Conference in ground-gaining, as Motley did last time we saw the tabulations, must have more than just speed. Both Motley and Blanchard are similarly talented in their ability to swivel-hip, cut and switch speed in split-second bursts. But you're going slightly overboard in questioning Motley's defensive acumen. As a matter of fact; the night Cleveland came into town to meet the Yankees it was Motley's great defensive play that distinguishes him. The rain-drenched field limited his and everyone else's running opportunities—but when it came to cracking the Yankee carriers down to earth, brother, that was something to see.

You are also mistaken, Dick, in opining that Motley doesn't do any effective running around the ends. You don't think his tremendous yardage total has been garnered solely by bucking the middle time and again, do you? If that were the case, where would the element of surprise be, and wouldn't the other teams of the A.A. loop have learned to pile up on Motley if he was used only in formulized bucks through the center of the line? Motley, in conjunction with colleagues Otto Graham and Edgar Jones, is called on for the same variety of running plays expected of a Blanchard in operating with Davis and Ug Fuson.

Our opinion, in summing up, is: Doc Blanchard can receive no higher praise than to be compared with the finest ground-gainer in the vastly tougher pro league. But to pit the good Doc against a man rated with the best of the more experienced professionals, is slightly unfair to Blanchard himself. Just to compare the quality of linemen Motley has to buck against, as opposed to the still-green college defensemen that Blanchard spills left and right—is enough to prove a point.

But as you say, Dick, best of luck for both. They're wonders.

Kenny Signs Dotted Line

Kenny Washington shown signing the contract to play football with the Los Angeles Rams while Charles "Chile" Walsh, Rams' general manager, looks on.

Signed By Champion Los Angeles Rams

First Negro in Major Pro Football League Since Lillard

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—(NNPA)—Kenny Washington, former All-American half-back at UCLA, last Thursday signed a contract with the Los Angeles Rams of the National Football League.

The championship Rams, recently transplanted from Cleveland, purchased the 27-year-old star's contract from the Hollywood Bears of the Pacific Coast League for an unspecified sum.

FIRST SINCE LILLARD

Washington, in signing the pact, became the first colored athlete to perform in the National loop since Joe Lillard of Oregon played with the Chicago Cardinals during the early 1930's.

Charles F. (Chile) Wash, general manager of the Rams, refused to disclose details of the contract, but said that the deal was culminated late Thursday "to the satisfaction of all concerned."

Unofficial reports asserted that the Rams were paying a "five figured salary" for the star's services.

Walsh revealed that the triple-threater—who will cavort in the Ram backfield with Bob Waterfield, another UCLA great—will rate a starting call in all Ram games next fall. He will get his initial taste of National League ball in late August against the College All-Stars at Soldier's Field, Chicago.

Football's 12-year anti-Negro taboo, barring Negro grid stars on big league teams, was broken when Los Angeles signed K. Washington, one of the greatest long passers in the history of football.

A gentlemen's agreement, allegedly entered into by big-league football teams, had previously tabooed the signing of Negro grid stars.

TERMS SECRET

Charles Walsh, Rams' manager, told reporters here this week that the contract terms for the signing of Washington remained a "trade secret." However, Kenny expressed jubilant satisfaction over the terms of the contract. What position he would play on the team remained undecided, according to the Rams' management.

When interviewed Monday, Coach Adam Walsh said: "When I saw Kenny play in 1940, he was one of the finest backs in the country. If he is not too far 'over the hill' he will certainly be good enough for my ball club. However, I will not know until I get him on the field."

FOOTBALL JIMCROW HIT AS RAMS SIGN NEGRO ACE

Daily Worker Sat. N.Y. N.Y.

Jimcrow in American sports received another staggering blow yesterday when Kenny Washington, all-time Negro football great, was signed to play this fall with the National Football League champions, the Los Angeles Rams.

Washington, 27 years old, was a football teammate at UCLA of Jackie Robison, first Negro ballplayer to be signed up by organized baseball. Kenny was a universal All-American and has been called by coast coaches one of the greatest backs of all time, ranking with such immortals as Jim Thorpe and Red Grange. He is tremendously popular in Los Angeles, his home town.

The last Negro player to be seen in pro football was Joe Lillard, who played for the Chicago Cardinals in 1933. In '34 the pro football loop succumbed to the pressure of baseball's Jimcrow ban. 3-23-46

Washington was signed by general manager Charles Walsh of the champion Rams, who moved last fall from Cleveland to Los Angeles.

"In Waterfield and Washington the Rams will present two of the most valuable players in football today," "Chile" Walsh said. "I have heard many fine things about Washington, both as a player and a man, and I feel certain that he will be a credit to our ball club and to his race.

"I look for other teams in the league to accept him in good grace just as he has always been given fair treatment and won the respect of all who have played with and against him in intercollegiate football and in his professional play on the coast during the past five seasons."

Washington, 27, is a product of Lincoln High School here. He was graduated from UCLA in 1941. His final year as an eligible collegian was 1939 when, in addition to the Liberty All-America team he made the first team selections conducted by Look Magazine and the New York Sun.

He was also awarded the Douglas Fairbanks Trophy as the Outstanding Player of the Nation as a result of being named to Liberty Magazine's All-Players All-American, being the only player of the 664 named to receive the vote of every man who opposed him.

After serving for some time as a Los Angeles police officer, Washington returned to a pro-football career that had been interrupted by a knee injury in 1941. Married and the father of one child, he stands six feet one and one-half inches, weighs 192 pounds and is famous as a long passer and conversion artist.

Los Angeles Rams Sign Another Negro Star

Richmond, Va. Times Dispatch

LOS ANGELES, May 7—(AP)—Woodrow Wilson Strode, star Negro end at the University of California at Los Angeles for three years, today joined his former teammate, Kenny Washington, on the roster of the Los Angeles Rams of the National Professional Football League. Wed. 5-8-46

The two, who formed one of the greatest forward-passing combinations in Coast football history, played together last year with the Hollywood Bears. Strode was a star performer for three years with the Fourth Air Force.

generally conceded that overtures have been made to Claude (Buddy) Young, wing-footed former Illinois halfback, who endeared himself to West Coast fans while starring with the Fleet City (Navy) Bluejackets.

Washington paved the way himself, however, by his brilliant performance with the Hollywood Bears, whom he led to the Pacific Coast Professional League title last year. Kenny, along with Ezra Anderson and Woody Strode, paced the Bears throughout their triumphant campaign.

Washington, according to Charles F. (Chile) Walsh, Rams' general manager, will rate a starting berth in the same backfield with Bob Waterfield, white, another former UCLA great. His first appearance in the Ram lineup will be in the annual College All-Star game in Chicago in August. 3-30-46

Slated for All-Star Tilt

Although colored stars have competed in this game in the past, Washington among them, this will mark the first time one has shown vious years, Kenny, Jackie Robin the pro tema's lineup. In preinson, Ozzie Simmons, Don Simmons, Bill Willis, J. C. (Roaster) Coffee and several others have played with the college stars.

Washington, who last fall returned from a tour of the CBI war theater with a troupe headed by Dan Burley of New York, weighs slightly under 200 pounds and stands 6 feet, 2 inches.

Kenny was born in this city in 1918. He began his gridiron career at Lincoln High School here. During his prep school days he was all-city and all-Southern California halfback in 1935.

While in high school he also starred in baseball and track, having played third base on the championship nines of 1934-35, and having tossed the 12-pound shot 51 feet, 8 inches.

Between the All-Star game in Chicago and the league opener Sept. 29 with the Philadelphia Eagles, the Rams will make their West Coast debut at the Los Angeles Coliseum the night of Sept. 6 against Sammy Baugh and the Washington Redskins for Los Angeles Times Charities. Philadelphia was the only team to defeat the Rams in 1945 and Washington was the club the Rams defeated in the championship playoff 15 to 14. Sat. 7-27-46

The club operates on a 15-hour schedule daily, except Sundays, during the training period. On Sundays only the players are to be allowed to sleep until 9 a.m. Many of them will attend church in the morning and the only Sunday practice will be in the afternoon. On other days the sched-

Ken Second To Play for Pro Gridders

By J. CULLEN FENTRESS

LOS ANGELES — To be the first Negro to play in the National Football League in more than twelve years, Kenny Washington, one of the greatest running and passing halfbacks in gridiron history, last week was signed by the Los Angeles Rams, world's professional champions.

Charles F. (Chile) Walsh, general manager of the Rams, made the announcement in the temporary business offices of the pro kings at the Alexandria Hotel, Fifth and Spring Streets, and in the presence of newsmen and other Ram officials, including Adam Walsh, head coach; George Trafton, line coach; Bob Snyder, backfield coach, and Bill John, business manager.

Walsh said that Washington's contract had been purchased from Coach Paul J. Schissler of the Hollywood Bears in keeping with a pact between the National Football League and the Pacific Coast Professional Football eLague, under which the former agrees to respect the player rights of the latter. The Rams and Bears have a working agreement, Walsh stated.

NO SALARY STATED

Neither the purchase price nor Washington's salary for next fall was divulged by the Rams' manager.

Washington, former University of California at Los Angeles star, thus becomes the first Negro player in the National Football League since Joe Lillard of Oregon wore a Chicago Cardinal uniform.

The Rams' announcement last week followed about two months Walsh's assertion at a meeting of the Coliseum Commission and subsequently at a conference with the Negro press that he would sign any qualified football player, regardless of race.

At the Coliseum Commission session, during which Walsh applied for Ram dates in the big bowl Halley Harding, Los Angeles Tribune sports writer; Herman Hill and the writer, of The Courier's Coast Bureau, protested granting of dates to the National Football League club because of an asserted league ban against Negro players.

Walsh denied such a ban, written or otherwise, existed.

The newsmen's protest, however, served to point up the absence of Negro players on NFL club rosters. Commission Chairman Leonard J. Roach granted the newsmen the opportunity to state their case.

Washington's first appearance in a Ram uniform will be against the College All-Stars the last week in August in Soldiers Field, Chicago. Next he will play against Slinging Sammy Baugh and the Washington Redskins in a Los Angeles Coliseum charity game the night of Sept. 6, after which he will be seen in all regularly scheduled league games in which the Rams participate both at home and on the road.

He will play in the same backfield, although the position has not been determined, with his fellow UCLA Bruin, Bob Waterfield, voted last year the Most Valuable Player in the NFL.

Los Angeles Pro Eleven Signs Kenny Washington

Afro-American Baltimore Md

Los Angeles Rams Break Ice by Hiring First Colored Star in Modern Grid Circles

LOS ANGELES.—The Los Angeles Rams, 1945 world gridiron champions, on Thursday signed the first colored player to a contract in modern big league football. 3-30-46

The player is Kenny Washington, All-American halfback at the University of California at Los Angeles, from 1937-40.

Washington signed at an undisclosed saalry, but unofficial reports are to the effect the former UCLA sensation will be paid in five figures.

Twenty-seven years of age and regarded as one of the most terrific passers in the history of the West Coast collegiate conference, Kenny becomes the first colored player to perform in the ranks of the revamped National Football League.

The last man to precede him was Joe Lillard, former Oregon luminary, who played from 1930-33 with the Chicago Cardinals. When Lillard played, however, the professional game had not been advanced to the high station it now occupies.

It wasn't until 1935 that the National Football League cemented its foundation and launched the tremendous promotional campaign which has gained it nation-wide popularity. 3-30-46

Championship Club

The Rams captured the world pro championship while representing Cleveland last year. The title was acquired in a playoff game with the Washington Redskins, in which the capital city eleven was defeated, 16-14.

Shortly after the close of the 1945 season, the Ram franchise was transferred to this city, presumably in an effort to carry the fight to the All-America Football Conference. The latter had established a team here and was threatening to dislodge NFL clubs in other cities where the two loops planned to operate, notably in Chicago, New York and Boston.

Challenge to All-America

The hiring of Washington is also believed in many quarters to be a direct challenge to the All-America, at it has been widely rumored that the new conference intends to employ qualified colored players.

In this connection it is rather

2 Negroes on Cleveland '11'

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Thurs. 9-5-46

The Cleveland Brown's two Negro stars, Bud Willis and Clarence Motley, will start tomorrow night against Miami at Cleveland Municipal Stadium in the opener of the new All-American football conference. Both assured themselves regular positions with their fine play against the Brooklyn Dodgers in an exhibition last week. Willis will start at guard while Motley will fullback the second backfield. The Browns are coached by Paul Brown, former Ohio State "wonder coach."

Washington, Strode Join Pro Grid Champs' Training

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

LOS ANGELES.—With Halfback Kenny Washington and End Woody Strode, between 50 and 55 members of the world champion Los Angeles Rams arrived at Compton College on Monday, to go into training camp for their 1946 season's opener against the College All-Stars for Chicago Tribune Charities in Soldiers' Field the night of Aug. 23.

IT'S BEEN A LONG, LONG TIME—Kenny Washington signed a contract with the Los Angeles Rams here Thursday afternoon, marking the first time in 22 years that a Negro player has been taken on by a National Football League team. Ram coach Adam Walsh (left) and Ram general manager Charles F. "Chile" Walsh look on.
(Daily News Photo)

Kenny Washington signs up with the L. A. Rams

The Los Angeles Tribune, Calif.

Sat. 3-23-46

Yesterday TRIBUNE sports editor Halley Harding's one-man crusade against the National Football league's patent, if unwritten, law against Negro players paid off in full. Kenny Washington, all-time west coast great, signed a contract to play with the 1945 world champion Rams, of Cleveland, who recently moved their franchise to Los Angeles.

Washington will be the first Negro to play with a National league team since 1933, when Joe Lillard, of Oregon, last played with the Chicago Cardinals. General manager of the Rams, Chas. F. "Chile" Walsh, said that however was [illegible] Negroes in the league and that actually no precedent was being set with the signing of Washington.

Walsh refused to say what the contract salary was, but explained that it was "entirely satisfactory to Washington and thoroughly in keeping with this great player's widespread reputation as a passer, ball carrier, defensive standout, and a gentleman highly esteemed by all who have ever played with or against him."

The Rams have scheduled six games for the Coliseum, and Kenny's gala performance in Ram togs will be against the College All-Stars in Soldiers field, Chicago, in August. His second appearance will be against Slinging Sammy Baugh and the Washington Redskins in the Coliseum in a night charity game Sept. 6th. After these he will play in all of the Rams' regularly scheduled league games at home and on the road, said Walsh.

Washington will play in the backfield alongside Bob Waterfield, also an ex-UCLA gridder, who was voted the most valuable player of the National League last year. Other backfield stars who will give Washington a run for the regular berths are: "Indian Jack" Jacobs, Oklahoma; Fred Gehrke, Utah; Mike Holovak, Boston University; Jim Gillette, Virginia; Orv Mathews, Oklahoma; Steve Succic, Illinois; Tom Farmer, Iowa; Gaylon Smith, Southwestern; Pat West, USC; and Jack Wilson, of Baylor.

What position Washington would play in the unfamiliar "T" formation will be a matter for the coach to decide. Said coach Adam Walsh, "We'll use him where we can get the most good out of his . . . outstanding abilities. There is always one thing that a player can do better than anything else, and we will use Kenny where his assets as a passer and runner will give us the strongest four-man combination on the field at one time. I will not know what position that is until I have tried out the various possibilities and combinations in training camp."

"In Waterfield and Washington the Rams will have two of the most valuable players in football today," Chile Walsh said. "I hear fine things about Washington, as a player and a man, and feel certain that he will be a credit to our ball club and to his race. I look for other teams in the league to accept him in good grace, just as he has always been given fair treatment and won the respect of all who have played with and against him in intercollegiate football and in his professional play on the coast during the past five seasons.

"I might point out in this respect that after he had played against Southern Methodist in 1937, Washington was chosen unanimously by the Mustangs as the greatest player they had faced, and that in the Liberty Magazine All-Players All-American selections for 1939 the only player of the 664 named who received the vote of every man who opposed him was Kenny Washington. As a result of this Washington was awarded the Douglas Fairbanks Trophy as the Outstanding Player of the Nation.

"Tom Harmon, John Kimbrough, and Don Scott were the other members of that All-American backfield and only Washington was a unanimous choice. I have seen Washington play and I am thoroughly convinced that given an even shake by the breaks of the game, he will go down as one of the greatest players of the National Football League."

Washington, now 27 years old, is a product of Los Angeles Lincoln high; graduated from UCLA in 1941. His final collegiate year was 1939 when, in addition to the Liberty All-American team, he made the first team selections conducted by Look Magazine and the New York Sun. During the 1940 season he was backfield coach of UCLA freshmen.

Other Negro stars who have played in the National League include Fritz Pollard, Akron; Bob Marshall, Duke Slater, Ink Williams and Sol Butler, Rock Island Independents; and Joe Lillard, Chicago Cardinals. Slater, Howard Jones' great tackle from Iowa, also played with the Cardinals after making his professional debut with Rock Island.

About 'Wonder 11's Two Negro Stars

The Worker New York, N.Y.

Sun. 10-27-46

It's certainly fitting that the team heading for the championship in a league named the All America Conference should also be the most completely American team in the loop.

We're talking, of course, of the stupendous Cleveland Browns, winners of seven straight, scorers of 180 points to the opposition's 34, and drawers of the largest single crowd in professional football history, last Sunday's 71,000.

And what makes them the most representative American team in the loop is the fact that their chief touchdown scorer and ground gainer happens to be Marion Motley, a Negro, and their topnotch lineman Bud Willis, also a Negro.

Motley was a comparative unknown in college. He played for the University of Nevada, which doesn't rate much grid space on the sport pages, especially in the East. Nonetheless his consistently brilliant play percolated his name through onto many "Honorable Mention" lists when All-Americans were picked.

Motley came into the limelight when as seaman Motley he played a major role in the Great Lakes Training Center team's terrific 39-7 upset of Notre Dame. Lt. Paul Brown, ex-Ohio State coach in charge of that Great Lakes team, jotted Motley's name down in his little note book and when he took over the job of coaching Cleveland's new pro team this year he gave Marion the beckoning finger.

Willis was a great tackle under Brown at Ohio State and Paul knew his caliber well and knew he wanted him on the Cleveland team. Bud was bellwether of the line of the 1944 team which won the Big Ten and National honors. He was All Big Ten in '43 and '44 and made many All-Americans in the latter year.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 12-29-46

Five Negroes In Rose Bowl Game; Four On Illinois

CHAMPAIGN, Ill.—The University of Illinois football team which meets the University of California at Los Angeles in the Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif., on New Year's afternoon, boarded their special Pullmans on the Panama Limited

Ike Owens

Buddy Young

for the West with stopovers in New Orleans and Arizona.

The four Negro players making the trip are Claude "Buddy" Young, former all-city halfback while at Wendell Phillips High in Chicago, a freshman sensation at Illinois in 1944 and a star with the Fleet City Bluejackets in California last year; Bert Piggott, substitute fullback at Illinois in 1943, and star back at the Tuskegee Army Airfield in Alabama in 1944-'45; Ike Owens, 6-foot, 195-pound end, the most improved end in the Big Nine, and Paul Patterson, halfback from East Aurora who was teammate of Young's in his freshman year at Illinois and last year with Young on the Fleet City championship Navy team.

WEST LOS ANGELES—Robert Mike, 25 years old, from Steubenville, Ohio, weighing 210 and standing 6 feet, one inch in height, is the only Negro on the U.C.L.A. varsity. He plays second string right tackle. He will see action in the Rose Bowl game next Wednesday afternoon.

Buddy Young's Comeback Bodes Ill for UCLAns

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Mon. 11-25-46

Although the Western Conference won't officially invite its Rose Bowl foe from the Big Nine until the end of the week, there's little likelihood that any other team but Illinois wlil dash with UCLA in the biggest Bowl game of them all come New Year's Day.

But the big story today is the spectacular manner in which Buddy Young finally found himself in time for Illinois' most important game of the season. Considerably shackled throughout the fall campaign, the great Negro scatback really came back all the way against Northwestern. Young set up two Illinois tallies with some of the breathtaking footwork that has caused many experts to rate him the greatest running threat since Red Grange—and if anyone else on the Illinois shared the sportlight with him against Northwestern, it was the Negro substitute fullback Bert Piggot. Between Young and Piggott, the Wildcats had no chance whatsoever. Young set up the first Illinois tally by taking the ball on the midfield marker and tight-roping his way 33-yards down the sidelines. On the next play he lateralled to Julie Rykovich who tossed a forward to Bill Huber who fell across the goal-line. After an exchange of punts with Illinois gaining possession on its own 34, Young acted as one-man convoy for Art Duffelmeier and came through with a stunning block on the five-yard line to remove the last threat from the path of Duffelmeier. In the final period the fleet-footed Young brought the crowd to its feet with an awesome punt return to bring the ball to the Illinois 48-yard line. From there Bert Piggott started carrying the mail and finally smashed over from the two-yard marker.

UCLA didn't have too easy a time of it against USC, but played conservative ball in the mud, waited for the breaks, got them and racked up two touchdowns by recovering Trojan fumbles.

Notre Dame turned on a devastating display of power in rocking Tulane 40-0.

Yale wound up a terrific season with its last-half win over an inspired and mighty rough Harvard crew.

Michigan concluded its campaign with its greatest burst of power yet in drowning Ohio State 58-6.

Certainly one of the biggest upsets of the day was Boston College's triumph over mighty Alabama.

Buddy Young 'Dramatic' Against Northwestern

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

EVANSTON, Ill.— (ANP)— Forgetting the cold weather, 47,000 cheering fans saw the "Fighting Illini" from Champaign clinch their bid for the Rose Bowl as they tamed the Northwestren 'Wild cats' 20-0 Saturday afternoon.

Writing a glorious chapter for themselves were the four sepia gridmen of Illinois, as they and their teammates won for their school its first Western conference championship in 18 years.

Wed. 11-27-46

SETS UP ILLINOIS FIRST TOUCHDOWN

Leading the offensive was Claude "Buddy" Young, sensational back, whose running was as dramatic as it was profitable. His 33-yard sprint in the second period set the stage for the first touchdown. In 12 tries, Buddy totaled 83 yards, was never thrown for a loss and was held for no gain only once.

Also pounding the Northwestern line were Paul Patterson and Bert Piggott. Ike Owens disappointed all would-be runners around his right end. Piggot's plunging scored the Illini third touchdown in the closing minutes of the final quarter.

Much credit for the triumphs of Elliott who has refused to be moved by adverse criticisms of his players. His position has been "these are valuable men."

Fighting against overwhelming odds was Northwestern's Negro end, Jim Holland.

Buddy Young, Piggott Star In Illinois Win

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Claude "Buddy" Young came back to the scene of his high school triumphs on the gridiron Saturday —back to his old home town Chicago. This time Buddy was in the role of a halfback on the University of Illinois eleven which trounced Northwestern, 20 to 0, before a sellout crowd in Dyche stadium in Evanston. And now Buddy and his mates are patiently awaiting the bid to play in the Rose Bowl game in Pasadena, Calif., on New Year's Day.

Young

Saturday's victory gave Illinois its first Big Nine title since 1928. It was well earned.

Young came back into his own Saturday especially before his Chicago admirers, friends of the Olde Tymers A.C., and former Wendell Phillips high students and faculty members. His 33-yard run set up the first Illinois touchdown in the second period. He made one of the sweetest plays ever seen on the gridiron when he came to Dufelmeier's aid when the latter essayed a 53-yard touchdown jaunt for the second touchdown in the second quarter. Young, seeing Northwestern's Bill Hunt the only man to overtake Dufelmeier, outraced Hunt, passed him, turned and threw a block that set Mr. Hunt on the seat of his pants and leaving Dufelmeier free to race the remaining five yards unmolested for the score. The block was so hard that both Young and Hunt rolled to the goal line—fully five yards from the point where the block took place.

Sat. 11-30-46

* * *

YOUNG HAD A GREAT afternoon. He made 83 yards in 12 tries although the Wildcat players watched him like a hawk watching a chicken. He was never thrown for a loss and only once did he hit the line for no gain. He even uncorked a beautiful pass which should have given the Illini a touchdown but the pass receiver failed to hold the ball.

Buddy electrified the crowd by running back a punt for 11 yards after being hemmed in by the entire Northwestern team but he did a snake dance back and forth across the field, covering fully 100 yards as the crowd roared.

Ike Owens, big end from Gary, Ind., turned out to be the "most improved" end in the Big Nine Conference this season. Paul Patterson was in there giving his best for Illnioism. The former East Aurora, Ill., player reeled off several nice gains.

* * *

BUT THE ORCHIDS must be devided between Young and Bert Piggott, the Negro fullback from Hinsdale, Ill., who played on the Illinois varsity in 1943 but who spent 1944 and 1945 as a member of the Bill Bell (formerly of Ohio State) coached Tuskegee Army Air Force Warhawks.

This fellow Piggott, sent into the game in the fourth quarter, scored the final touchdown for Illinois. On his first try Piggott rammed his way through the Wildcat line to the Northwestern seven for a first down and goal to go. Quarterback Moss, knowing Northwestern would be expecting Buddy Young to take the ball, gave it to Piggott on the next play. He picked up three. On the next try, it was Piggott again. This time he made it to the Northwestern two. The crowd stood up. Again Piggott took the ball. It was some time before the officials could unscramble the players. The ball rested on the one-foot line.

Now what? thought the crowd. Much to the amazement of all present, again Moss called for Piggott to carry the ball. This time Bert partially hurdled the line and up went the official's hands signaling an Illinois touchdown. Five consecutive times had Bert Piggott been called on to give his all for "dear old Illinois"—and five times he responded with gains, once for a first down and four times picking up seven of the darndest yards any man could be called upon to make.

Northwestern used one Negro player—Jim Holland, an end, from Rock Island, Ill.

You're Feeling Badly About Buddy Well Don't, Coach Says He's Ok

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-16-46

CHICAGO (ANP) — Ray Eliot, coach of the Illinois football team and Buddy Young's tutor, denied here Monday that the sensational Chicago sophomore is a "flop" in 1946 competition.

Answering a question sent to him at the speaker's table at the weekly Quarterback luncheon, Eliot said:

"First of all, let me say that Young is not a flop. Young is a valuable and integral part of our football team. He is a marvelous boy, and I know how hard he is trying to live up to the great things expected of him. I hate to hear such criticism of college athletes."

The coach pointed out that they have received by mail dozens of plays, charts and diagrams which tell them how to "get Young loose." He declared that Young was great in 1944, being listed as the third top ground gainer in the country and leader in runs over 60 yards.

"People criticize the way we use him, but do you know that almost without exception we're using Young on the same plays which sprung him in 1944?

"There's been talk, too, about Young not getting the cooperation of the other boys. There is no truth in that. He is one of the most popular boys on the squad."

To back up his statement about Young's playing ability, Coach Eliot reminded the gathering that Grange himself scored only six touchdowns in his final collegiate season, only three against Big Nine rivals.

Stars Back, Illinois May Be Terrific

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. Thurs. 9-5-46

By JERRY LISKA.

Champaign, Ill., Sept. 4 (AP)—Coach Ray Eliot's wandering football boys—the wartime pride of Purdue, Notre Dame and Fleet City, Calif.,—are back home; which may mean Illinois will be close to terrific on the gridiron this season.

Claude "Buddy" Young, squat, swift Negro halfback who wowed the West Coast last season on the Navy's Fleet City eleven, is primed to prance in the footsteps of another Illini great, Harold "Red" Grange.

Tearing holes in opposing lines for Young and Julie Rykovich, 1943 Notre Dame star, will be almost the entire forward wall of Purdue's 1943 co-Western Conference champions.

Young

It would be something of poetic justice if Eliot's Illini could snap a Notre Dame jinx in their classic battle here September 28 and bowl over seven Big Nine opponents for their first Western Conference title since 1928.

Just when Illinois seemed destined for greatness again in 1943, the Marine Corps shifted such stars as Alex Agase, tackles Johnny Genis and Mike Kasap, ends Frank Bauman and Joe Buscemi and fullback Tony Butkovich to Purdue. Halfback Rykovich went to Notre Dame.

In 1944, after freshman Young burned up Midwestern gridirons by tying Grange's all-time Illinois touchdown record of 13 in a single season, the Navy tapped him on the shoulder and in 1945 he was doing his breath-taking break-aways at Fleet City.

Now, Eliot's lads are home—all except Butkovich, whose name was on a Jap sniper's bullet in the South Pacific.

Eliot, beginning his fifth head-coaching season, also profited by transfer to Illinois of two Notre Dame stars, end Bill Huber and halfback Achille "Chick" Maggioli. The latter's 70-yard touchdown run won a 13-7 decision for Notre Dame over Illinois in 1944.

The big Illini problem, beyond the natural question mark over rusty ex-servicemen, is at quarterback. Although Eliot has a four-season array of 30 lettermen, his current signal-calling choice is a 1942 freshman star, Tom Gallagher. *9-5-46*

Unless Eliot digs up a strategist to operate his fast-smashing T-formation, the fleet footwork of Young, Rykovich and Maggioli may be wasted motion, especially against such formidable opponents as Notre Dame, Ohio State, Michigan and Indiana, conference titlist.

Buddy Young's 2 Touchdowns Pace Illinois

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — Opening the first and third periods with touchdown dashes, Claude (Buddy) Young, sophomore streak, sparked the University of Illinois gridders to an easy 33-7 victory over the University of Pittsburgh eleven here Saturday before 35,000 fans. The sound of the opening gun had hardly died out before the scintillating halfback from Chicago broke away for a 46-yard run around end to pay dirt.

Buddy Young

The Panthers tied the score at 7-all and held off the Illini for the rest of the period. Young, however, again put his mates in the lead as the second half got under way. *Sat. 9-28-46*

A recovered fumble gave Illinois the ball on the Pitt 20. Young was given the ball on the first subsequent play and he outstreaked the secondary to tally standing up.

Paul Patterson, Buddy's "scat-back twin" in 1944, also registered a touchdown during the game. He accepted a pass from Tom Stewart, white teammate, in the end zone in the fourth period.

BACK TO DEAR OL' ILLINOIS

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 7-13-46

Claude "Buddy" Young returned to Chicago Saturday with his discharge from the Navy. Young, former all-city backfield ace of Wendell Phillips High and high scorer in the Chicago public high school league in 1943, starred for the University of Illinois in 1944. While at Camp Shoemaker, Calif., he was the outstanding player and the magnet which drew many extra thousands to see the Bluejackets play. Young turned down offers to play pro football and so far has been able to ward off attempts to get him to attend the University of California at Los Angeles. His present intentions are to enroll at the University of Illinois and come out for the team. Leaving the Pacific Coast at the same time with Young was Paul Patterson, the Negro halfback from Aurora, Ill., who was Young's teammate at Illinois and with the Navy team.

Illinois Halts Pitt, 33 to 7, With a Last-Half Uprising

The Times New York, N.Y. Sun. 9-22-46

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 21—There was an upset in the making in the balmy breezes at Pitt Stadium today, until gears of the University of Illinois football power plant meshed in an awesome burst of power which crumpled a gallant, inexperienced lot of Pitt Panthers into a 33-7 defeat.

It was the season opener for both teams and Pitt's first start under its new coach, Wesley Fesler.

About 35,000 fans roared in delighted disbelief as the young Panthers clawed their way to a 7—7 first half deadlock after Claude (Buddy) Young, the Illini Ebony Express, spun off a 46-yard touchdown run before the echoes of the starting gun died from the bowl.

Pitt matched that touchdown before the period ended as Louis Cecconi, a freshman from Donora, Pa., High School, piled through center from the one-yard line after an interception by Pitt and a completed Panther forward pass had set up the score.

The Panthers actually outplayed the bigger, faster, wiser Illini for the remainder of the first half and only missed spurting into the lead in the second quarter when End Walter Cummins of Greensburg, Pa., an Army dischargee, allowed a long pass from Cecconi to squirt through his fingers on the goal line.

That bristling first-half effort spent the Panthers, however, and fired the Illini to a pace worthy of their high ranking on the nation's list of top-flight teams.

The third period was very young when Substitute Back Art Dufelmier burst through the Pitt left side and galloped 38 yards for a touchdown. Illinois recovered a fumble on the Pitt 20 a few minutes later and after five plays Young sped around left end for another score.

A passing attack, climaxed by a 27-yard scoring heave, Tom Stewart to Paul Patterson, added another touchdown in the fourth period, and Chick Maggioli made the final Illini score a personal triumph by racing 75 yards over the goal on a punt return.

Young, used solely for spot performance, exhibited the blinding speed for which he is famous but

he was well throttled by hard-working Pitt except for his opening touchdown dash and his short spurt for a score.

In the devastating spurt by Illinois in the second half, there was simply too much ability running around loose to spotlight an individual. The tiring Panthers must have reasoned that the supply never ran out. *The Times*

The first-down chart showed little advantage for Illinois with 10 to Pitt's 9 but long Illinois touchdown gallops accounted for this apparent closeness. Pitt gained 205 yards from offensive plays, mostly in the first half, while Illinois rolled up 226 yards. Pitt threw 19 passes and completed 6 for 73 yards while Illinois completed 2 out of 9, for 33 yards.

The line-up: *New York, N.Y.*

ILLINOIS (33)		PITT. (7)
Valek	L.E.	Skladany
Kasap	L. T.	Durishan
Prymuski	L. G.	Barkouskie
Wenskunas	C.	Ward
A. Agase	R. G.	Coury
Franks	R. T.	Plotz
Bauman	R. E.	McPeak
Gallagher	Q. B.	De Pasqua
Rykovich	L. H.	Lee
Eddleman	R. H.	Abraham
Steger	F. B.	Lauro

SCORE BY PERIODS

Illinois	7	0	13	13—33
Pittsburgh	7	0	0	0— 7

Illinois scoring—Touchdowns: Young 2, Dufelmeier (for Steger), Patterson (for Young), Maggioli (for Patterson). Point after touchdown: Maetchle 3 (placements).

Pitt. scoring: Touchdown: Ciccone (for De Pasqua). Point after touchdown: Ciccone (placement).

SUBSTITUTES *Sun. 9-22-46*

Illinois — Ends: Zatkoff, Maetchle, Hess, Owen. Tackles: Agase, Bingaman. Guards: Wrenn, Serpico. Centers: Seliger, Donoho. Backs: Eddleman, Gallagher, Krueger, Dufelmeier, Piggett, Patterson, Stewart, Maggioli, Kwasmiewski, Young.

Pitt.—Ends: Cummins, Gregg, Mihm, Cappele. Tackles: Harris, Hardesty, Roussos, Cerrone. Guards: Ranni, Johnson, Kosh. Centers: Sumpter, Clougherty, Ward. Backs: Bruno, Federich, Ciccone, Blanbury. Backs: Sprock, Pepper, Short, Daley.

STATISTICS OF THE GAME

	Illinois.	Pitt.
First downs	10	9
Yards gained, rushing	193	132
Forward passes	9	19
Forwards completed	2	6
Yards gained, forwards	33	73
Forwards intercepted by	2	4
*Av. dist. of punts, yds.	43	30
‡Run-back of kicks, yds.	133	136
Rival fumbles recovered	1	3
Yards lost, penalties	5	76

*From line of scrimmage.
‡Includes punts and kick-offs.

Buddy Did All Right -- But He Couldn't Beat Notre Dame Team

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 10-5-46

CHAMPAIGN, Ill.—There was nothing wrong with the play of Claude "Buddy" Young Saturday against Notre Dame other than the Irish had "marked" Buddy and were determined he wasn't going to get away for any long touchdown jaunts—and he didn't. They wouldn't even punt or kick off to Young except once.

What Buddy lacked was a line and some of the interference he had out there on the coast last season when he and Paul Patterson were members of the Fleet City Bluejackets. The navy team had some of the Chicago Bears and other pros in that line and had some in the backfield who could run interference for Young. All this was lacking Saturday.

After the first quarter, Illinois University didn't have a chance. Football games are not won on sentiment alone and no one man can whip a big team like Notre Dame.

* * *

YOUNG WAS THROWN twice for losses of 11 and 14 yards each. Once he got away for a 21 yard jaunt but couldn't get out in the open. He carried the ball 11 times but his net gain was only 40 yards. On the other hand Notre Dame's Sitko, who got off for an 83-yard run to bring the 75,119 fans to their feet, carried the ball eight times for a total of 116 yards or an average of 14.4 yards per try.

Paul Patterson got into the game in the first quarter and on his first try reeled off a nine-yard gain but Paul was guilty of a fumble which set the stage for the first Irish touchdown. The former East Aurora, Ill., high player showed up as well as could be expected but that Illinois line certainly must improve if the Illini expects to be one of the top teams of the Big Ten conference.

* * *

ISIAH OWENS, 6-foot freshman end from Roosevelt high in Gary, Ind., was in a class by himself. Time and again he would elude the Notre Dame interference and reach over to bring down the ball toter. Once he got his mitts or even one hand on the ball carrier that was as far as the carrier could go. Down he came with a thud.

The fourth Negro in the Illinois lineup—and at one stage of the game all four were in there at the same time—was Bert Piggott, Hinsdale, Ill., ex-GI. He played fullback. Last season Piggott was a member of the Tuskegee Army Warhawks. He rammed through the line for short gains against Notre Dame.

Johnny Lujack, Notre Dame quarterback on the 1943 national championship team, was in there using his best judgment and outpassing Illinois' Moss, who with Young, were the pre-game heroes and on whom the crowd, at least most of them, pinned their hopes for an Illinois victory.

Illinois' Lone Counter 4th Period Pass

The Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
Sun. 9-29-46

Notre Dame Manpower Wears Down Illini Defense

CHAMPAIGN, ILL., Sept. 28.—(AP)—Notre Dame's fighting Irish opened their season today by completely smothering famed Buddy Young as they trounced Illinois, 26-6, before a record 75,119 spectators in Memorial Stadium.

Young contributed an 11-yard dash as his best effort.

The Illini penetrated Notre Dame territory only once in three quarters and were lucky to count a touchdown in the last two minutes on a 63-yard desperation pass from Julie Rykovich to End Bill Heiss.

It was an alert, well-manned Irish eleven which took control of the contest in the second quarter when Emil (Red) Sitko's 83-yard run to the Illinois two broke the back of the outplayed Illini.

Two plays later, Fullback Jim Mello dived over his left guard for a touchdown and the issue was settled even though Fred Early missed the point try.

A 67-yard march also in the second period put across the second Irish touchdown which rightfully belonged to Fullback Jim Mello, a Navy veteran. Mello barged across from the four-yard stripe after ripping 31 yards through the tiring Illini defense. This time Early pierced the cross bars to give the Irish a 13-0 lead.

It was in the fourth period that the manpower which Coach Frank Leahy hopes will wear down Army on Nov. 9 sent the Illini reeling into the ropes under the lashing of two more Notre Dame touchdowns.

Notre Dame	0	13	0	13—26
Illinois	0	0	0	6— 6

Notre Dame scoring: Touchdowns, Livingstone, Mello, Brennan, Clatt: points after touchdown, Early 2, (placements).

Illinois scoring: Touchdown, Heiss.

Illini Kicks Pitt, 33-7

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 21—(UP) Illinois University gave a gridiron preview of things to come this season by defeating the University of Pittsburgh, 33 to 7, in the opening game today before 35,000 fans.

While the inexperienced Pittsburgh team was not a complete test of Illinois vaunted power, Buddy Young and company served notice to their Big Nine opponents that their tempo would be fast and furious. *Sun. 9-22-46*

One minute and 45 seconds after the opening gun, Young made his postwar college debut a success by circling wide around his left end for a 46-yard touchdown dash. Tom Gallagher's conversion was good.

Pittsburgh's retaliation was momentarily halted by a 15-yard penalty. End Leo Skladany's recovery of an Illinois fumble was a short-lived Pitt hope. But minutes later, Louis Cecconi, playing in his first college game, intercepted an Illinois pass which set Pitt in scoring position on the Illinois 22. After three ground advances, Cecconi drilled through center for a touchdown. Carl Despaspuas kicked the extra point.

The score remained deadlocked in the second period. Dwight Eddleman short-circuited Pitt's power by intercepting Cecconi's pass on the Illinois 27. But Pittsburgh's threat was reborn when George Johnson covered Jules Rykovich's fumble on the Illinois 27. Pitt's goal line march was halted on the 16 when Gallagher intercepted Pete Fuderich's pass.

Illinois stepped up its offense in the third quarter to score twice. Two more touchdowns were added in the fourth for good measure.

Pitt	7	0	0	0— 7
Illinois	7	0	13	13—33

Touchdowns: Cecconi, Young (2), Dufelmeir, Patterson, Maggioli. Points after touchdowns: Cecconi, Gallagher, Maechtle (2).

Claude "Buddy" Young Hits Stride Again

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Thurs. 10-24-46

CHAMPAIGN, Ill.—(NNPA)—Buddy Young, Illini speedster, galloped back into the scoring columns, Saturday as Illinois downed Wisconsin, 27-21, before 62,597 homecoming fans.

Young struck like a rifle shot early in the first period when he bolted inside the Badgers right end and cut diagonally toward the corner with pursuing Badgers losing ground with every step. He galloped 34 yards to score.

A fumble by Buddy on his own 6 yard stripe proved costly for the Illini. It came after Young took a Badger kickoff into the end zone and was nailed on the Illini two yard line. On the next play Illinois sent Young into the Wisconsin line but the ball slipped from Buddy's hands and was recovered by Wisconsin on the 6-yard line.

Three plays later Kindt went thru the left side of the Illinois line for a touchdown.

Paul Patterson, Young's running mate, was brilliant in repeated hammer thrusts at the Badger line.

'What's Happening To Buddy Young?'—Fans

The Chronicle
Detroit, Mich.
Sat. 10-26-46

By BILL MATNEY
Chronicle Sports Editor

In all probability, many Midwestern fans will get the answers to the many questions which have arisen recently concerning the unpredictable Orange and Blue of Illinois, and particularly Claude "Buddy" Young.

As you will recall, at the beginning of the gridiron season, Illinois, literally loaded to the gills with stars, was picked, along with Michigan, to be the toughest eleven in the Big Nine.

Illini Open Season Impressively

The Illini opened fairly impressively by soundly trouncing a weak Pittsburgh team, 33-7. Coach Eliot used his aces sparingly, but Young raced 46 yards in the opening minute of the game.

What was billed as the "Number One Game of the Year," between Notre Dame and Illinois, turned out to be a number one rout as the Irish ripped the Illini, 26-6. Buddy Young was turned back repeatedly.

Rumors Fly Fast

Immediately following this debacle, rumors flew thick and fast about dissension on the Illinois team.

The Orange and Blue bounced back somewhat against Purdue in winning, 43-7, but Young was denied each time he lugged the pigskin. Then the Illini played Bo McMillin's Indiana Hoosiers and wound up on the losing end of a 14-7 count.

Seek New Coach

When this happened the "Wolves" began to howl for Eliot's scalp. Athletic Director Doug Mills made excuses at luncheons for his Illinois team by claiming that they were underrated. But top sportswriters, including Bill Stern and Bill Corum, were far from satisfied with this explanation. These men wanted to know why Young, with his extraordinary running equipment, could not gain more than 15 yards a game. These men feel that there is a terrific story behind Buddy's failure.

In the meantime, sports fans throughout the country are asking one question: "What has happened to Buddy Young?" Many are beginning to doubt his ability, the ability that enabled him to race to 13 touchdowns in 1944 and tie Red Grange's all-time scoring record.

Buddy Finally Scores

In the Indiana game, Buddy carried the ball only four times. In the Purdue game he carried it 12 times. Last Saturday he got away finally for a 43-yard touchdown run for his team's first score against Wisconsin as Illinois outscored the Badgers, 27-21.

Thus, in the past few weeks, Buddy has been accused by many of being a "prima donna," and is merely being punished by his teammates. Others say that the team resented the pre-season publicity build-up that listed the Illinois team as "Buddy Young and Co."

Buddy Overrated?

Still others maintain that Young is just not up to par with postwar football standards. Eliot stoutly states that his team will "explode" one of these Saturdays, and the fans will see the real "Illini."

Whatever the answers are to these many mysteries surrounding Illinois and Buddy Young, many should be answered when Michigan fans get their first look at the much-discussed grid squad Saturday in Ann Arbor at the Michigan homecoming.

Pro Stars and All, They Seem Fond of the Way Buddy Plays Football

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

Between them, a pair of old, old friends have come up with some refreshing bits of news on Claude (Buddy) Young, the beige-colored gazelle who must be known far and wide by now for his meteoric speed on the track runways and his shadow-like performances on the football field.

It is always easy to do an interesting column on the former University of Illinois cinder and gridiron scintillant, but none I have yet had the pleasure of doing can surpass—nor even equal—this one, pieced together from the revelations of Harry R. Payne and Vincent (Vinnie) Flaherty, which come to me from California where both now reside.

Payne, most of you will remember, was at one time quarterback of the Howard University eleven when it was in its brightest day. Later, he had the dubious honor of coaching the Bison footballers. Today, he is director of the De-Fremery USO Club in Oakland.

Jesse Owens Lauds Him

Flaherty is a daily sports columnist whose friendship I enjoyed while he was serving a Washington newspaper before going to the Los Angeles Examiner. We did several stories together and he frequently refers to me as being the one who introduced him to Joe Louis.

Of course you know Young. You also know that he is in California because the Navy sent him there. You probably know, too, that Buddy played as sensationally, if not more so, for the Fleet City Bluejackets out there, as he did for University of Illinois during the 1944 season, when he tied Red Grange's record for scoring in a single Big Ten season.

But enough of the introductions. Let's get down to cases, eh?

From friend Harry comes the word that Jesses Owens, the track immortal for Ohio State and individual star of the 1936 Olympics, is one of Young's closest friends as of the present.

Would Be Fastest Human

Jesse, incidentally, is on the coast preparing to enter the Portland (Ore.) team in the newly-formed Pacific Coast Negro Baseball League, of which he is vice president.

Harry says that Owens thinks Young is just about the fastest thing that ever walked. Quoting the ex-Buckeye bullet, Payne says Owens declares, "Buddy would be the fastest sprinter of all time if he quit football and devoted all of his time to track."

Also very close to Young, Harry informs me, are Duke Slater, the ex-Iowa grid star; Paul Patterson, Young's halfback running mate at Illinois; Wilbur (Windy) Wallace, former Iowa University athlete, and Red Cooper, ex-Hampton Institute cage star.

Flaherty is unstinted in his praise of Buddy. He says:

Bigoty Shelved

"In this jumbled day of alleged racial prejudices, it is interesting to note that Buddy's greatest boosters among his Fleet City teammates were the Southern white boys of the squad.

"In the first Fleet City-El Toro (Marines) game a tense incident is recalled when hot words were exchanged when Young was reportedly roughed by an El Toro lineman, and the lineman loosed a purple flow of language upon the diminutive colored star.

"The first to come to Buddy's aid was Frank (Bruiser) Kinard, a veteran of pro football whose Southern drawl has such velvety thickness you can't cut it with a paratrooper's knife. Kinard hails from Mississippi. He is one of Young's best friends.

"The most convincing testimony to Young's football greatness is the fact he has overshadowed all of the great backfield stars

BUDDY YOUNG

of the Fleet City roster—players of such renown as Steve Juzwik, of Notre Dame; Charlie O'Rourke, of Boston College; Harry Hopp, of Nebraska, and Andy Uram, of Minnesota.

(All these men are members of teams in the National Football League—ed. note.)

"The week before the championship game with this same El Toro crowd, Fleet City had met the Pacific Fleet All-Stars in San Francisco. They were loaded with topflight talent. They had heard about Buddy. They meant to stop him cold—and said as much.

"Before the game Commander Reinhart, the Fleet City coach, took Young aside.

Got "Unbottled"

"'Buddy,' he said, "these boys say they're going to bottle you up.'"

"Buddy grinned. He had no comment.

"He ran to three touchdowns during the fray, one for 55 yards, one for 83 yards and another for 140 yards, the distance having actually been measured over the path he traveled from one sideline to the other and back, prior to running to the score.

"After the game, Reinhart patted Young on the back and observed, 'Buddy, you had a great day.'"

"'Yes,' grinned the lad, 'I guess I got unbottled.'"

Called "Great"

"Slip Madigan, the old St. Mary's coach, claims Young is the greatest ball carrier he has ever seen. Jim Barber, assistant coach of Fleet City and former Washington Redskin tackle, says he once considered Dic Todd (Redskins) the best back he ever saw—but that Buddy has everything Todd has in addition to more speed.

"Bruiser Kinard calls Young 'the greatest of all time and I don't have to see the rest.' Willie Wilkin, another ex-Redskin thinks Buddy 'can't be real.' Ernie Nevers, Stanford football immortal and another prostar, admits 'I've never seen his equal.'

"Aldo Forte, former all-pro lineman of Chicago Bears, says 'I've seen the greatest in pro football. None can compare with Young.' Ray Flaherty, long time coach of the Redskins recently named tutor of the New York Yankees of the All-America Conference; 'I've seen him. I believe everything now.'

"Bob Hope's expression was typical: 'I'd heard of black magic. Now I've seen it.'"

Buddy Young Helps Trip All-Star Pros

LOS ANGELES (ANP) — Buddy Young, paced the Service All-Stars to a 14-13 win here Sunday over Kenny Washington's All-Stars in a charity football game before 18,000 spectators in the coliseum.

Washington's team started the scoring. Jack Jacobs passed to Lefty Goodhue, for 14 yards in the second period and Kennedy converted. In the same period, the service team went 80 yards in four plays for a touch down. Charley O'Rourke, former Chicago Bear star, passed to Young, former Illinois star, who galloped 35 yards to score. Sam Zontini converted.

The Service Stars repeated their second period performance in the next period when O'Rourke passed to Steve Juzwik, for 38 yards for a touchdown to end an 80-yard drive. Zontini again converted.

Washington's All-Stars smashed 50 yards in eight plays during the final four minutes of the game. Jacobs passed six yards to Goodhue for the score, but the conversion attempt was blocked.

Buddy's collegiate record

ILLINOIS 79; ILLINOIS NORMAL 0: Sept. 16, 1944, at Champaign, Ill. Playing very little this opening game, Young returned a punt 82 yards for the first of two touchdowns during the afternoon. He scored again when he grabbed a loose ball to travel 15 yards.

ILLINOIS 26; INDIANA 18: Sept. 23, at Champaign. With the score tied at 12-all in the second half, Buddy Young sparked a drive by catching a 21-yard pass and going on a 15-yard dash from scrimmage.

ILLINOIS 26; GREAT LAKES 26, Sept. 30, at Great Lakes. Young swung around his right end from his own 7, galloped 93 yards to shove Illinois ahead of the highly favored Great Lakes 6-0 in the opening quarter of their game.

ILLINOIS 19; PURDUE 35: Oct. 7, at Champaign. Trailing 0-7 in the second quarter Illinois tied up the ball game when Don Greenwood passed to Louis Agase who lateraled to Buddy Young who rambled the remaining 24 yards just four minutes after Purdue had scored. Young broke loose with big gains from scrimmage in the third heat setting up another Illinois score. He registered Illinois' final touchdown by skirting left end for 21 yards to follow up with a 40-yd. jaunt around the right wing for the pay-off.

ILLINOIS 40; IOWA 6: Nov. 14, at Champaign. Young dashed 64 yards around his right end on the first play of the game. Six minutes later he boomed through tackle for 30 yards. Buddy's runs set up another touchdown drive.

ILLINOIS 39; PITTSBURGH 5: Nov. 20, at Pittsburgh. Young provided Illinois with a 19-3 lead at the half when he raced 92 yards; dashed over from the four-yd. line in the third heat.

ILLINOIS 7; NOTRE DAME 13: Oct. 28, at Champaign. Buddy Young electrified the 65,000 by galloping through Notre Dame for 74 yards off right tackle the first time he got his hands on the ball, to push the Illini out in front 7-0. Still leading 7-6 in the second period Young raced 47 yards from the line of scrimmage for another score only to have it called back by the officials. He didn't play at all during the second half, as he was kicked on the head in the last play of the first half. This swung the tide in favor of Notre Dame; they tallied the winning touchdown and conversion in the final quarter.

ILLINOIS 0; MICHIGAN 14: Nov. 11, at Ann Arbor. Michigan stopped Young and defeated Illinois 14-0. Young gained a total of 81 yards during the day, racked up 57 yards the first four times he lugged the ball.

ILLINOIS 12; OHIO STATE 26: No. 18, at Cleveland. Young was held in check as the Buckeyes rolled to their 8th consecutive win.

ILLINOIS 25; NORTHWESTERN 6: Nov. 25, at Evanston. Buddy scored two touchdowns to tie the all-time record of 13, established by Harold "Red" Grange in 1924. Young made his first score late in the opening period when he took a lateral pass and zipped 6 yards around his right wing. He hit the line from the two in the second quarter to tie Grange's record.

30 Colleges Bidding For Buddy Young

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Jan. 8 (UP)—Claude (Buddy) Young, sensational former Illinois halfback who started last season with the Fleet City Bluejackets, said today that about 30 colleges were after his services but "I like Illinois and UCLA."

Young is working out with the Illinois track team. He expects to be discharged from the Navy sometime in April and will then make up his mind where to resume his college career.

He played only his freshman year at Illinois, where he was named All-Big-Ten halfback and nominally would have three more years eligibility. He said UCLA had promised him a lucrative job if he would attend the Coast school.

At the All-American Football Conference here last weekend, coach Dick Hanley of the El Toro, Cal., Marines, described Young as one of the great college running backs of all time.

"I've never seen anything like him since Grange," Hanley said. "And sometimes I wonder if he's not better than Red. Never have I seen anything as fast in football uniform as he is."

Young Is Greater Than 'Red' Grange, Says Hanley

LOS ANGELES—In Los Angeles last week to attend the All-America pro football conference of owners and coaches, Dick Hanley, Chicago Rockets' mentor told newsmen that the day Buddy Young ran wild in the Coliseum against his El Toro Marines, he was the greatest back he ever saw and that included even the immortal Red Grange.

Young scored three touchdowns, two of them on ninety-four and eighty-eight-yard runs through the whole Marine team...

Coach of Hollywood Pro Team Rates Buddy Young "Football's Greatest"

Pittsburg Courier — Pittsburg, Pa.

Sat 2-23-46

HOLLYWOOD—(ANP)—Buddy Young looms as the "greatest individual attraction ever in college football," according to Paul Schissler, present headof the Hollywood club of the Pacific Coast League. Schissler, who once coached Lombard College and the Chicago Cardinals, also rated Young last week as his number one selection of backs. "I'd rather have Young than any three backs you can name," he said. "When Buddy goes in motion from the T, he's a defensive problem almost impossible to solve. Fleet City passed to him when he was a flanker and against us he started a wide sweep, then jumped high and threw a left-handed pass. The pass didn't connect but it was a threat."

Schissler has not forgotten how 25,000 fans remained to the last play when his team played an all-star service team including Young. Although Buddy did not make any long runs, the fans stayed until the last play, hoping the fleet footed back would make a last-minute dash for his opponents' goal. Schissler's team won the game but convinced him that Young looms as the number one gate attraction of college football.

"California has known a lot of great football players but it never went for any star like it did for Young, when Young played with the Fleet City Navy team last season," he said. "Fleet City drew big crowds elsewhere, all because of Young."

Sat 2-23-46

Comparing Young with Red Grange, also an Illini great, Schissler admitted that "Young, of course, is faster than Grange ever was." Then he added, "odd, isn't it, that Illinois should have two such attractions?"

"I never saw a back who runs quite like Young," he continued. "Buddy will be going at what you think is top speed. Then, if a tackler gets near him, he turns on an extra spurt. You wonder where he gets the added speed."

He also analyzed Young's defense ability. "He's not afraid to tackle and does a pretty good job on pass defense. Of course, in the safety position, he drives you nuts. The El Toro Marines kicked off to him and Young went 85 yards. Later, they punted to him and we went for a touchdown.

"I never saw anything like that little guy," he remarked.

After praising two other midwesterners, Elroy Hirsch of Wisconsin and Verne Gane of Minnesota, Schissler still picked Buddy as his choice of backs.

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

Tues. 9-24-46

BUDDY YOUNG is back, and that, my friends, makes Illinois a powerhouse in the Big Ten again. The tremendously fast Negro halfback unreeled a touchdown dash in the first half against stubborn Pittsburgh, and that was all the Illini garnered until the last half, when the boys really began to move and by the time it was over Illinois walked off 33-7 winners.

Buddy Young, Paul Patterson Discharged From Navy, to Return to Illinois Eleven

The Afro-American — Baltimore, Md. — Sat. 7-20-46

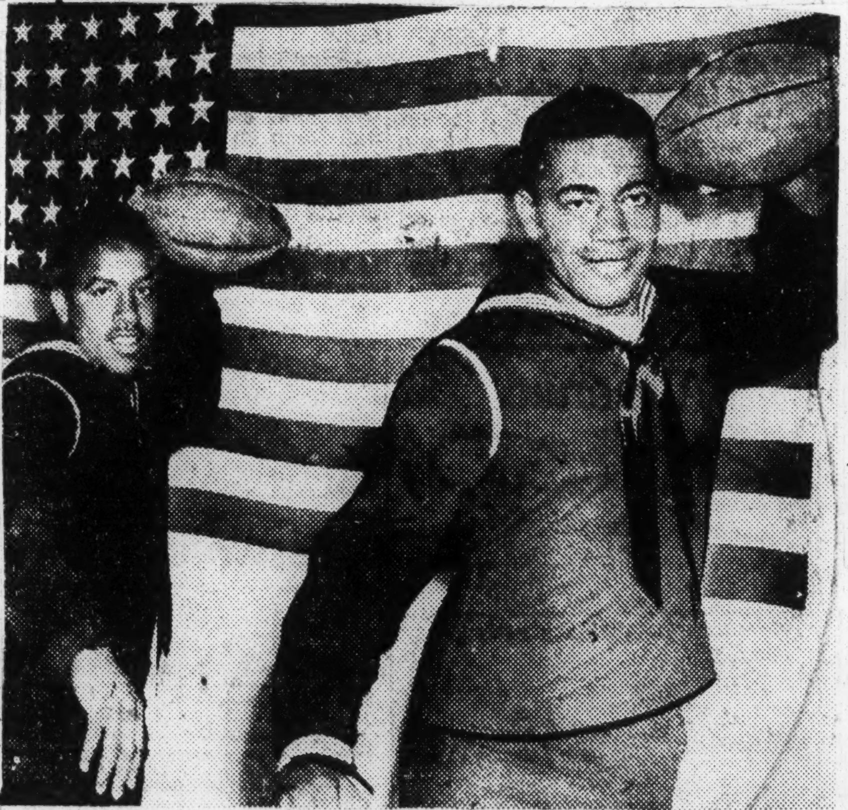
SHOEMAKER, Calif. — The greatest potential twin college football threats were made available to Illinois University by the U.S. Navy last week when Claude (Buddy) Young and his running mate, Paul Patterson, were honorably discharged from this Naval Personnel Separation Center.

Young and Patterson were regulars and stars of the Fleet City Bluejackets which represented the U.S. Naval Training and Distribution Center, 1945 service champs and uncrowned kings of American football. The Bluejackets, according to football experts, were one of the greatest football aggregations, college or professional, ever assembled. They boasted 20 all-Americans and about a dozen outstanding pros.

The 20-year-old Young caused a Pacific Coast conference football furor this winter over reports of UCLA's alleged offers, but Buddy settled it by return to the Champaign campus and his former football coach, Ray Elliot.

Buddy, a graduate of Wendell Phillips High School, Chicago, played his freshman year at Illinois and then joined the Navy, serving 19 months. Patterson, an East Aurora (Ill.) High School star athlete, also played his freshman year at Illinois, and he, too, served 19 months in the Navy.

The pair enrolled at Illinois at the same time, were inducted at the same itme and discharged at the same time.



BUDDY YOUNG, left, PAUL PATTERSON, right

N.Y. Coach Still Raves at Mere Mention of Buddy Young's Name in Grid Talk

The Afro-American — Baltimore, Md. — Sat 8-10-46

NEW YORK—Commander Bill Reinhart, former coach at Fleet City Naval Training Station, still speaks in raves about Claude (Buddy) Young, University of Illinois track and moleskin star, whenever the talk gets around to football in his presence.

The commander, completing his first week of training the Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy eleven, was commenting on the chances of his team during the coming fall.

Talking to Red Smith of the Herald Tribune, daily, Reinhart opined:

"We ought to have some material inside a few years. The kids get board, room, tuition, books and $65 a month. There are 1,200 students and there's no reason why we couldn't have 1,200 athletes."

He said he didn't expect material like that he had at Fleet City, Calif., for that would be too much like Heaven.

Out there his best backfield comprised Young, Johnny Hopp, of Nebraska; O'Rourke, of Boston College, and Juzwik, Notre Dame. Behind them were such men as Stud Johnson, William and Mary; Curt Sandig, Pittsburgh Steelers; Andy Uram, Green Bay Packers; Harmon Rowe, now at the University of San Francisco; Cliff Lewis, Duke; Ollie Vogts, Marquette, and Lou Zontini, Cleveland.

BUDDY YOUNG

Of them all, he loved Young best. Says the 160-pound youngster, who stands only 5 feet 5, will make Illinois a winner this year.

"He'd make any team a winner," Reinhart insisted, "especially if they have material enough so they can keep him fresh or just use him as a decoy when he isn't fresh.

"He can do anything. He's a touchdown threat whenever he played defensive left half, didn't want to play safety. They didn't dare pass against him because if he grabbed one he was gone.

"He's not just a straightway sprinter, either. Pin him on the sidelines, and he'll jump sidways ten feet. In our playoff with El Toro Marines—and they had the same sort of material we did, a lot of fellows like Wee Willie Wilkins—they scored first. They kicked off and Buddy ran ninety-three yards for a touchdown. Then we kicked off, held 'em three plays, and they punted to Young. That time he went eighty-three yards. Afterwards he set up two-three more touchdowns.

"Remember, he's only nineteen and had just one year of freshman ball at Illinois. I doubt that Glenn Davis, of Army, could do as well as Young under equal conditions. I've seen Dick Todd and Cliff Battles and McAfee and all the rest. I don't think any of 'em can give this little guy anything."

ROUNDUP

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y. — Thurs. 10-3-46

WOULDN'T YOU know that Joe Williams, the World-Telly's frustrated Pegler, would jump with a sneer on Buddy Young for being stopped by Notre Dame? Test of an All-American, pontificates Williams, is to run wild against a great team not against "rinky dinks." This is mighty sad stuff applied to the great Negro back, who tied Red Grange's touchdown mark in his freshman year against Big Ten competition, hardly "rinky dink," in fact the country's best—and ran wild for the Fleet City Bluejackets against the best of the service teams, which were some better than the wartime college teams.

Williams also should know by now that being stopped early in the season (by the country's strongest team) before the offense and blocking has had a chance to jell, hardly makes a season. Did All American Davis run wild for Army against Oklahoma Saturday? Did Williams make any cracks about his caliber? Are you kidding?

RAJO JACK
. . . watch his dust

Negro driver is feature of midget races at Coliseum

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif. Sat 9-7-46

Rajo Jack is one of the very few Negroes to ever fool around with speed. Usually they don't go in for it, except on city thoroughfares, and then it's just the occasional one who cuts any figure at it. But Rajo Jack has made a name for himself on most any track you could name in this hemisphere.

Tonight local fans will get a chance to see Jack raise his dust on the Los Angeles track. Promoter Bill White, owner of many an entry at the Indianapolis annual classic, has signed up Rajo for feature appearances. White, who is manager of the Coliseum's peewee racing promotions, has been a longtime friend of Rajo's and this presentation is a longtime wish of his, he says.

Jack's racing career antedates the roaring twenties. He started off on a motorcycle back in 1921 and won a lot of road races (short-track races were unheard of back in those days); and topped off his motorcycle days by winning the 200-mile championship at Chehalis, Wash., in 1922. In 1923, he took up big cars and didn't do bad for a beginner. With his Model "T" he made the class of the day (Durvea. Marmon, etc.) look like selling platers by making the best qualifying time at Vancouver, B. C.

Since then he's made all the spots—Ascot, Mines Field, Yakima, Fresno, San Diego, Victoria, B. C., and many another—next year he's planning to make Indianapolis.

Rajo has a big racing car, but right now he's busy hustling up a midget mount for tonight to compete against the nation's best: Duke Nalon, Ed Haddad, Sam Hanks, Perry Grimm, Harry McQuinn, Danny Oaks, Johnny Parsons, Bob Pankratz, Johnny McDowell, and the rest.

Qualifying starts at 6:30 p.m. at the Coliseum, with the regular show beginning at 8:30 p.m. General admission will be $1.25. Reserved seats are available at $2.50 by calling RIchmond 6391.

Interracial Gun Club In NJ Scores

New York Amsterdam News

BY VAN JAX

TINTON FALLS, N. J.—(Special)—New Jersey's Twin Sycamore Rod and Gun Club, owned and operated by Negroes, is one of the country's leading gun clubs, and for fifteen years has been an important instrument of inter-racial goodwill. Sat. 7-27-46

The club has a membership of fifty, one third of whom are white, and makes its headquarters at Tinton Falls, N. J. This headquarters consist of a shooting range for members and guest, ten acres of ground, two modern skee traps and several buildings. New York, N.Y.

Tournaments Are Held

Trap shooting tournaments are held on the grounds every second and fourth Sunday and always attracts a large number of visiting celebrities of the sport along with members from affiliated clubs. Last Sundays guest celebrity was Al Ivens former National trap shooting champion. According to Ivens, the Twin Sycamore shooting equipment is among the finest in the country.

This club is the first and only Negro club to become a member of the Monmouth County Sportsman's Association, which automatically makes it a member of the New Jersey State Association.

The Monmouth County Sportsman's Association is comprised of 25 hunting, fishing and gun clubs and meets each month with one of the member clubs acting as host. According to reports, the meeting at which the Twin Sycamore Clubs acts as host is always the best attended of the season.

One Of The Top High Scorers

One of the biggest events of the year held by the club, is the celebration of Wetmore Day, in honor of Dr. E. B. Wetmore of Morristown, who is an outstanding member of the club. Dr. Wetmore is rated by experts as one of the high score men of all time in the art of Trap shooting. He is reported to have scored 250 consecutive hits out of 250 shots, under competition, to win a match for his club. He won the Gov. Hoffman State award in 1940, shooting with a broken shoulder under a cast and is the possessor of more than 4000 dollars worth of other trophies. Dr. Wetmore is the only Negro holding the Hoffman award.

Takes Year Of Practice

For those who might be interested in learning the sport; William L. Steel, President of the Twin Sycamore Club, says that it takes about one year of consistent practice to acquire a fair efficiency as a trap shooter. And the only requisites are alertness, steadiness and a good gun. Mr. Steel highly reccomends the sport for all lovers of clean outdoor sports. Sat. 7-27-46

Steel has been president of the club for five years and has helped steer the course of the club as an inter-racial goodwill organ, backed by the other highly qualified officers and members.

The clubs other officers are: Frank Dennison, (white) vice president, Dr. E. A. Robinson, custodian and J. W. Robinson, captain of the shoot.

The Women's Rifle Club is affiliated with and uses the facilities of the Twin Sycamore Club, but some of the women have become such good marksmen that they now enter into competition with the men.

A SMALL GROUP of trap shooting enthusiasts snapped at the Twin Sycamore Rod and Gun Club's shooting range at Tinton Falls, N. J., recently. The club is Negro-owned, but has a mixed membership. One third of its members are white. William L. Still is president of the club.

Jimcrow Rocked by Negro Athletes

The Worker

By Lester Rodney

New York, N.Y.

Sun. 10-6-46

Nineteen hundred and forty-six is far from over, but already it has put itself in the American sports book as the year when Jimcrow took its most staggering blows. On the diamond, the gridiron, the campus, track and ring, Negro Americans are crashing through the rotten facade of discrimination to break traditions long due for the ashcan.

Here are some of the big events in capsule:

1—In baseball, **Jackie Robinson** became the first Negro to play in the organized leagues. Signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers and sent to the number one farm, Montreal, for development, Jackie took the International League by storm, leading the team to an easy pennant victory with sensational fielding and base running and a league-leading batting average. Montreal broke all attendance records for a minor league club.

Two significant sidelights on Robinson: In the spring, when several Southern cities "requested" the Montreal club to leave Jack out of the line-up in exhibition games, the Montreal manager and players, many of them Southerners, quickly told those cities to blow it out their box offices, and canceled the games.

And last week, when the Montreal team came into Louisville, Ky., to meet the local team in the "Little World Series" opener, the Louisville owners, after ascertaining the temper of the Montreal team, wisely refrained from any such "request," and Louisville fans were treated to the sight of Negro and white on the same field for the first time in their lives.

Next year Robby comes up to the big leagues. The 27-year-old sensation who once starred at football, baseball, track and basketball for the University of California at Los Angeles can't miss, and another wall will come tumbling down.

2—Other Negro players began breaking into the lower minors. At Nashua, N. H., catcher **Roy Campanella** and pitcher **Don Newcombe** starred as Nashua won the New England League race. Campanella was unanimously voted and acclaimed "Most Valuable Player" of the league. In Three Rivers, of the Canadian-American League, pitchers **Roy Partlow** and **Johnny Wright** played prominent parts in leading their team to the league pennant.

3—Pro football saw Jimcrow die a quick natural death with one push. The Los Angeles Rams, National League champions, signed up **Kenny Washington** and **Woody Strode**, Cleveland's Browns of the other pro loop, the new All American Conference, signed up two more Negro stars, **Marion Motley** and **Bud Wills**. The Browns, playing to unprecedented crowds, have won four in a row to outclass the rest of the league to date. Their breakaway running star and biggest gate attraction—Marion Motley.

There'll be a lot more Negro football players in the pro leagues next year. For the colleges have more Negro stars. Look here:

4—Down at New Haven there's a freshman named **Levi Jackson** who lives in New Haven, always wanted to go to Yale and play on the team. His father was a cook and waiter at the school. There had never been a Negro on a Yale team before 1946, but Levi Jackson is the Yale fullback right now, and the big reason Yale is favored to take the old Big Three title. Down goes another wall.

So it goes around the nation's gridirons north of the Bilbo-Rankin line. At Champagne, Ill., they are again singing hosannahs for **Buddy Young**, who tied Red Grange's touchdown record in the Big Ten before going into the Navy. Along with him are **Bert Piggott** and **Paul Patterson**. Big star for the U. of Iowa to date is **Emlen Tunnell**. Breaking away for long gains for the U. of Michigan at Ann Arbor before 85,000 fans is **Gene Dericotte**.

That's just some of it—a sketchy idea of what's going on in the sports world the same time the guns are pulled in Columbia, Tenn., and Freeport, Long Island, where the scum of the earth tries to "keep the Negroes in their place." They're afraid of the kind of people's democracy Jackie Robinson and Levi Jackson mean, a democracy given a push forward by the anti-fascist war in which all kinds of Americans discovered some of the simple facts of life they never knew before.

It may not seem nearly as important right now, but the cheers for Negro and white coming out of the ball parks and gridirons will be swelling ever louder into the American sky when no more Bilbos will be fouling the air of our Senate and no more propaganda-filled Romeikas walking their beats in Freeport.

P.S. We forgot to mention an athlete by the name of **Joe Louis**, who seems to be doing pretty well since coming back from the Army.

Justice Department May Probe Boxing And Baseball

Times Dispatch Richmond, Va.

Washington, June 21.—(INS): The department of justice had under study today an investigation of professional baseball and boxing to determine whether conduct of the sports warrants federal anti-trust action.

Published reports that the department would undertake an inquiry into the sports were described by Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge as "stronger than the facts warrant." Sat. 6-22-46

Some high department officials said they have "grave doubt" that baseball and boxing are in interstate commerce and therefore subject to anti-trust action.

Berge, however, is understood to have assigned an attorney from his department to take a preliminary look into charges by Representative O'Toole, Democrat, New York, that Promoter Mike Jacobs, who staged the Louis-Conn fight, has a monopoly in professional boxing.

There is no formal investigation of either boxing or baseball underway in Washington. One high official said the department has received suggestions that "we look into the Mexican situation" as it affects major league baseball.

Meanwhile, Representative O'Toole took the house floor to continue his attack on Jacobs against whom he announced plans to file a $100,000 suit for claimed damages based on the promoter's statement that O'Toole "tried to knock me off for two tickets" to the Louis-Conn fight. 6-22-46

O'Toole told the house:

"Racketeer Jacobs accuses me of a shakedown. When Jacobs can't tell the truth he resorts to the smear."

O'Toole said the Jacobs-promoted heavyweight title fight was "the greatest fraud ever perpetrated on the American people since the days of the Mississippi bubble."

The fiery New York congressman charged that such activities "are taking boxing not into the gutter, but into the sewer."

SURVEYING THE SPORTS FRONT

Daily World 1-7-47 Atlanta, Ga. Tues.

By Joel W Smith

JIM CROW IN SPORTS GIVEN STAGGERING BLOW IN 1946

Before giving a brief review of the sports parade in 1946, it may be well to point to a rather significant trend. The 'jim crow' in sports was given a staggering blow in 1946, and that is no joke. The cancellation of two football games and a basketball contest, previously scheduled between Northern and Southern colleges over the color line indicates clearly that the 'jim crow' in sports is definitely on the way out. To make a long story short, it seems that at long last, the athletic officials and players of Northern institutions are getting 'fed up' with the out-moded Southern traditions.

The University of Nevada canceled a football game with Mississippi State rather than beanch Horace Gillom, end and William 'Bill' Bass, back, two Negro stars. Then came the wrangle between Penn. State and Miami University over the participation of Wallace Triplett and Dennie Hoggard. This tilt was also canceled. The next blow against the 'jim crow' came in December, when Duquesne refused to play a hardwood contest with Tennessee, when asked not to use Charley Cooper, outstanding Negro performer.

Negro athletes also made history in professional sports during 1946. In football Marion Motley, and 'Bill' Willis were key performers with the Clevelanl Browns of All-America Conference; Kenny Washington and Woody Strode, of the Los Angeles Rams, and John 'Big Train' Moody and Tbawick played pro football in Canada. Jackie Robinson was a sensation in the Interntional baseball loop. Then there were Johnny Wright, Roy Partlow, of the Three Rivers club of the Canadian American League; Don Newcombe and Roy Campanella, of the Nashua Dodgers in the New England State league. Making the grade in professional basketball circles are: Jackie Robinson, Ziggy Marcell and George Crow, with the Los Angeles Red Devils; Dolly King and Pop Gates, who are now playing with pro outfits at Rochester and Buffalo, respectively.

JOE LOUIS AND RAY ROBINSON OUTSTANDING BOXERS OF 1946

Joe Louis the celebrated Brown Bomber and Ray 'Sugar' Robinson were the outstanding boxers of 1946. Louis successfully defended his world's heavyweight crown twice, knocking out Billy Conn in the eighth and Tami Mauriello in the first of scheduled 15-round champonship bouts. Robinson captured the welterweight crown with a clean-cut victory over Tommy Bell. Other outstanding boxers include: Jersey Joe Walcott, Bob Montgomery, Elmer Ray, Archie Moore, Ezzard Charles, Billy Fox, Ike Williams, Jackie Wilson, Wesley Mouzon, Curtis Sheppard, Tommy Bell, Beau Jack, Booker Beckwith, and Willie Joyce.

In track circles, the Tuskegee Institute Women's Track team won the tenth national AAU championships at Buffalo, with Miss Alice Coachman, scoring in the 50 and 100 meter dashes and the running high jump. Miss Coachman and Elmore Harris took the spotlight in a dual meet between the United States and Canada at Montreal. Miss Coachman won the 100-yard dash and running high jump in stride, while Harris took the 220-yard dash and 440-yard run. Bill Mathis, Herb McKenley and George Walker sparked the University of Illinois to the Big Nine Indoor Championship. Lloyd LaBeach won the high jump at the Drake Relays and Bill Carter took the 'century' at the Penn Relays. The Tuskegee Women's team, Prairie View, Tuskegee (boys) and TAAF dominated the eighteenth annual Women's Track and Field Meet and twentieth annual Tuskegee Relay Carnival. The Clark College Pathers retained the SIAC track crown and Southern was tops in the Southernwestern loop.

INTERCOLLEGIATE BASEBALL REVIVED

Intercollegiate baseball was revived in 1946. Fielding teams in the SIAC were Morehouse College, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama State Teachers College and Florida A. and M. College. The hustling Asheville Blues breezed thru with the championship in the Negro Southern League after a heated race with the Atlanta Black Crackers and Chattanooga Choo Choos. The Newark Eagles, champions of the Negro Nat'l. League toppled the Kansas City Monarchs, champions of the Negro American League for the world's baseball crown. In the annual East-West Classic, the American leaguers let the National leaguers down on the shortend of 4-1 count. 1-7-47 Tues.

Theodore Rhodes was the outstanding golfer of 1946. In addition to winning the $2,000 Joe Louis Open, posting a 290 for a new record, the Nashville pro placed in the money in the All-American Open played over the Tam O'Shanter course, Chicago. Howard Wheeler, former Atlantan won the National Open Tournament and Solomon Hughes finished out in front in the Mid-Western Open. Zeke Hartsfield set a new record of 260 for tournament play in winning the $800 Southern Open over the New Lincoln Golf and Country Club course, and Willie Wynn, retained the Southern Amateur crown, taking the measure of Roy White, of Anniston, Alabama, on the 37th green. Goldsmith Sibley and Emory Stroud were the pro and amateur winners in the Atlanta Open. A review of football, basketball and tennis in 1946 will be given later.

from the
Press Box
by LEM GRAVES, Jr.

Kenny Is a "Sure Thing" but . . .

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

The pattern of integration in sports is slowly but surely developing. This week, we learn of the signing of Kenny Washington to play pro football in the National Football League for the first time that a Negro has received a contract in that league since the days when Joe Lillard and Duke Slater were performing on the pro circuit.

Sat 3-30-46

GRAVES

It is peculiarly significant that the National League beat the new All-American league to the punch in this case. It will be remembered that when the All-American league was first organized, its spokesman at that time, the immortal "Red" Grange, issued a liberal statement of policy to the effect that Negro stars would be signed on the basis of merit and that there would be no discrimination in the new league.

The All-American, noted for flashing its huge bankroll in the faces of the better stars from the National League, has completely overlooked the colorful and extremely capable Negro stars and has allowed the National League's Los Angeles (formerly Cleveland) Rams to steal the spotlight on this recent deal. With Washington's popularity on the West Coast, the Rams now have a definite upper hand in the competition for fans in Los Angeles. Any star Negro player adds considerable interest to a sports attraction and Kenny has established his ability to pull cash customers in the Los Angeles area.

Looks like the All-America, striving to get the jump on the old league all over the country, was left at the post on this attraction.

Incidentally, Negro fans now busy "sweating out" Jackie Robinson and John Wright in organized baseball, have no such worries about whether or not Kenny Washington will make it in football.

Everybody knows that Kenny Washington is one of the best backs, white or colored, of all time. He has been playing with a Hollywood minor league outfit all along and is certainly, by any standards, one of the ten best football players in the pro ranks today.

Football is essentially different from baseball in that batting averages, fielding averages, and all the other departments in which baseball players have to square away don't bother the football player. Kenny won't have to battle through a hundred or so recruits to gain his position. Either you can play football or you can't. Kenny CAN!!! This fact is so well established that nobody is waiting, with bated breath, to see if he makes the grade. He will and that's that!!!

This optimism is justified even though the World Champion Cleveland Rams have a great passer and quarterback in Bob Waterfield, also from UCLA, Kenny's old stamping ground. There's not a ball player around these days who can keep Kenny Washington sitting on the bench in anybody's league.

* * * *

Jackie Must "Sweat It Out"

Unfortunately, the same does not go for Jackie Robinson, who is having a pretty tough time getting started in organized baseball. As yet, Jackie hasn't been able to connect with that ball. He has plenty of other points to recommend him but you're just supposed to smack that pill when you step in the batter's box in the big leagues.

Another disadvantage in Jackie's case is the fact that he is constantly being switched around the infield. That means that he may not have established himself as a fielder in any one position. If he is just an ordinary fielder, and no great shakes with a stick, he probably won't make it.

However, we think judgment should be reserved until the end of the training season. Most ball players have a batting slump now and then and it's a cinch that the Dodger pitchers have not been serving him anything in the groove. We don't think they should. We want them to give him the works. If he can snap out of it and make the grade against the best the big leagues can offer, we will be happy to see him right in the Montreal lineup. If he can't make it then we think he should be eliminated.

It is the consensus of baseball oldtimers that John Wright will find it easier to stick in the big time than Jackie will. Pitchers are only expected to pitch. The oldtimers say Johnny Wright can hold his own. Infielders are expected to field, throw, run and hit. That's a sizeable order.

* * * *

HERE AND THERE: Collegiate baseball will return to the sports calendar with a renewal of an ancient baseball classic between A. and T. College and its traditional rivals, N. C. State, at Greensboro, Easter Monday. This is an encouraging sign of the times. Huntington High of Newport News plans to play baseball this spring but the school is stymied for opposition since no other high schools in the Virginia area have announced plans to field a team.

Negro Is Appointed Referee

HARTFORD, Conn., Aug. 20 (U.P.)—George M. Fitch, 29, New Haven, became today the first Negro to be appointed to the State Athletic Commission's staff of referees. Fitch was appointed by State Athletic Commissioner William J. Prince and was sworn in at the State Capitol by Attorney General William L. Hadden

FROM THE PRESS BOX

The Worker New York, N.Y.

The Jimcrow Blight In Sports—A Challenge

By C. E. Dexter

Mon 4-1-46

The sad spectacle of Jimcrow intolerance in the South overshadows interest in the coming baseball season, so far as I am concerned. Three times during the past week exhibition games of the Montreal Royals have been cancelled in Florida because Jackie Robinson and John Wright, Negroes, are members of the Canadian team.

This disgraceful contempt for the basic rules of sport, that every man should have an equal opportunity on the playing field, follows the similar Jimcrowing of star Negro athletes in the coming AAU games in Texas. It is a sharp reminder to those who believed that the breaking of the Jimcrow barrier in baseball would solve easily a problem which lies like a cancer in the vitals of American life.

Add to this the manner in which an official of the New York Athletic Club tried to halt a discussion by readers of True magazine in which two Negroes participated and the patent strength of white chauvinism in sports circles is clear.

Let's strip away the bandages from these running sores and see what lies beneath. In Florida, a local law prohibits Negroes from playing baseball on the same field as whites. In Texas, local custom segregates Negro track athletes, although among their number are several champion sprinters and jumpers. In New York, freedom of assemblage is arbitrarily denied to whites when Negroes are present by an organization which includes among its members many leading figures of the sports world as well as many non-sports figures prominent in business and social life.

What does this mean?

I recall a noted American basso of Jewish descent who sang in the Dresden Opera House for 15 years prior to the first World War. He boasted that he was the only Jew granted the privilege of appearing on the stage of that hallowed institution and that he had been admitted as an equal to the palace of the Grand Duke of Macklen-Strelitz.

Mon 4-1-46

I recall how Louis Rothschild begged French progressives to quiet their agitation against anti-Semitic measures in Germany in 1936. "Don't provoke Hitler to reprisals," was Rothschild's plea.

Anti - Negroism is as dangerous to American democracy as anti-Semitism was to French and German democracy. If Dresden lies today in ruins, if Rothschild was forced to flee Europe before the advance of Hitler, it was because the inner significance of corrosive anti-Semitism was not understood nor removed.

We are indignant because Robinson and Wright cannot play, because Negro track men cannot live in Texas on terms of equality with whites, because two Negroes were forced to speak in the dark at the New York A.C. But what about the white players on the Montreal team who could not also play in Jacksonville and Deland last week? What about Jewish members of the New York A.C.? Are there any? And, if so, are they forced also to speak in the dark? What about the white readers and editors of True—did they enjoy the crack of Simon Legree's whip about their heads?

Acceptance, by inaction, of Jimcrow laws does not only mean that Negroes are the sole sufferers. Jimcrow in sports circles is not purely an attempt to keep sports lily white. It is an open attempt to impose the theory of white superiority as a basis not for white superiority as such but to give preference to those who weakly consent to the status quo. All others, even those who, as in the case of the white Montreal players and the white readers of True, lose their rights as American citizens because they do not agree to support the defenders of the status quo in un-American activities. The question becomes therefore not special but general.

Aggressive counter-action is needed. Now that the truth about Jacksonville's local ordinance has become known, it should be fought . . . in the courts, if possible; if not by branding citizens of Jacksonville who acquiesce in this ordinance for what they, in truth, are—supporters of racism not different in quality from Hitlerism.

Texans who consider the great Negro track athletes as second-class citizens should be reminded that Americans who believe in fundamental democracy are outraged by their weakly accepted local customs. The AAU meet should be called off by popular demand until transferred to a democratic American city where all men are treated alike.

Those who are shocked by the New York Athletic Club's denial of the rights of free speech and assemblage to those who wish to sit in conference with their Negro fellow citizens should picket the New York A.C., refuse to attend or to compete in athletic events in which New York A.C. members participate.

It is not too late to undertake such actions. Too soon, however, it may be too late. The very dynamism of democracy has inspired its enemies to show their hand openly. Now that they have been exposed, they must be met on a new level, with firmness and determination.

Dan Burley on SPORTS

New York, N.Y. Amsterdam News

1946 Banner Year For Negro In Sports

The sports scene for 1946 looms as the most momentous as regards the Negro since 1910 when we first projected a world heavyweight champion in the horizon in the person of Jack Johnson. The eyes of the world, sports following or not, will be on the Negro this spring and summer mainly because Negro athletes will occupy the splotlight.

Already the wheels have started turning to wheel the first big Negro subject on the scene in the person of Jackie Robinson and Long John Wright, who by the time you read this, will be going through their first paces as full-fledged aspirants for places on minor league teams in organized baseball down at Daytona Beach, Fla.

Sat 3-9-46

Then along will come June with its heavyweight championship fight here in New York involving a world idol—Joe Louis, and Billy Conn.

June 28 and 29 will focus the spotlight on San Antonio, Texas, where

for the first time in history, Negroes will be given the permission to compete in a National AAU outdoor track and field championship on a basis of equality in a state in the Deepest part of the Deep South.

Yes, Negro Baseball Has It's Role

Meanwhile, Negro Baseball, which in spite of itself, has produced a Jackie Robinson and a John Wright, wil be launching another season in its series of seasons, and the eyes of the baseball and other sports worlds will be on it as never before to see if there are other Robinsons and Wrights around who might be good candidates for minor and major league berths.

Perhaps, I am unkind in saying that Negro Baseball has produced Robinson and Wright in spite of itself and clarification is undoubtedly due on that point. What I am pointing at is the inability of organized Negro baseball to see the glorious possibilities it has in being the source of players who can be given the chance to get into the big show.

The bitter opposition over the years by some of the operators in Negro Baseball to the advancement of their players from the strictly racial moulds in which they are born, has played not a small part in the failure of other major league owners and officials to follow the example set by Branch Rickey of the Dodgers in signing up Robinson and Wright. Negro Baseball must open its eyes and be responsible for the transfer, sale or entry of future Negro players into the Big Leagues.

There is no doubt that Negro Baseball faces its most prosperous year in 1946. A glance at what is going on among the white major and minor league clubs will furnish a clue as to what can be expected at the box office for Negro baseball attractions. If the season's prospects will only stimulate Negro operators to take a different view of the situation and of their role in it, 1946 will be a milestone year in the history of the Negro in professional sports.

Louis vs. Conn — Drama of Big Boys

Louis vs. Conn marks the return of the Big Boys to the boxing scene. For the duration of the war, the sports world has been awaiting this one fight. It is the ultimate in ring entertainment and the character of Louis is a particular reason for pride on the part of the race with which he is identified.

Predictions are already being made on every side as to the outcome. Few doubt that Louis will deposit Conn in the Land of Nod as he has done most of his other foemen, especially in return encounters.

What is outstanding about this fight, however, is the spectacle of a 31-year-old Louis engaging in what may be the swan song of his spectacular career. There are some who think that Louis may get enough money out of this fight, plus huge sums from investment programs and other deals being cooked up by Mike Jacobs to be in a position to quit the ring for good with the title or make a defense of his crown but once a year until he is ready to renounce it. Whatever turns out, the fact remains, however, that Louis and Conn, a Negro and a white fighter, will make history in 1946. Sat 3-9-46

Here's Background of the AAU Controversy

The AAU Championships in Texas are involved in a nationwide controversy over whether Negroes of northern cities should go South to compete in face of the record of segregation and discrimination Down There to which their people have been subjected ever since the Union was formed.

Those who favor participation point out that to close a door newly opened without entering it is bad politics and that to run away from a battle is cowardice.

Those for a boycott of the meet advance the excuse that it has already been proven that Negroes can run and jump and that no purpose will be served by our top runners and jumpers going South to show their talents to white southerners who have never seen Negro stars compete against whites.

By June, the matter will be settled one way or the other. Meanwhile, **the controversy which is paper words, is a healthy indication that what we all want is on the way and will get here sooner than many expect.**

In this corner

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

An Answer to C. E. Dexter's Guest Column

By Bill Mardo

Our C. E. Dexter has some erroneous ideas on how to combat Jimcrow in sports, and they were amply evident in his guest column yesterday which was both received and printed on my day-off. Some of Dexter's viewpoints don't represent the opinions of the Daily Worker.

Tues 4-2-46

I particularly refer to his contention that: "Texans who consider the great Negro athletes as second-class athletes should be reminded that Americans who believe in fundamental democracy are outraged by their weakly accepted local customs. The AAU meet should be called off by popular demand until transferred to a democratic American city where all men are treated alike."

The Daily Worker's position regarding the Texas AAU games has been made crystal clear by now—and has received the support of the Greater New York CIO Council. We are supporting the San Antonio championships, because in itself, the games represent a giant stride forward against the forces of jimcrow. For the first time in the history of Texas, Negro and white athletes will compete equally on the same field. We have constantly pointed out that this, plus a continued fight to win further equal rights for the Negro runners who go South, is a far more realistic approach to the issue than to boycott the meet and support a counter-meet in New York as was proposed and later shelved by Stanley Woodward.

The average person in the South, weaned as he has been on the white-supremacy myth, will never learn the folly of such a theory unless it's blasted to bits before his very eyes. Not once, but many, many times. The average trade unionist in the South, who is slowly beginning to join in his union's battles to win equal rights for the Negro worker—he, too, will be encouraged and educated by the lessons to be learned from witnessing Negro-white athletic competition in the Alamo Stadium at San Antonio.

Yet the Daily Worker has maintained that all of this in itself would not be enough—if we didn't at the same time continue to fight against the Jimcrow features of the AAU championships. The trade unions have been demanding non Jimcrow transportation for the Negro runners on the trip to Texas—and this campaign directed against the AAU officials has begun to show results. It looks very much now as if one Pullman will be provided for all the athletes involved, Negro and white, on the jaunt to San Antonio. This sort of campaigning against Jimcrow must be heightened to guarantee the above development—and also to fight for, if possible, a non-Jimcrow seating arrangement at the Alamo Stadium. And non-Jimcrow hotel accommodations for the Negro athletes.

So it's not a question of weakly yielding to the Jimcrow setup in the South—but one of fighting it and at the same time trying to strengthen the campaign by proving in life the very stupidity of the Jimcrow system. The campaign against the Jimcrow train accommodations has borne out the wisdom of such a fight. The campaign to win further demands will likewise heighten the issues involved. And the opportunity of having equal Negro-white competition on the field at San Antonio is too real a lesson for anyone to lose sight of.

So if our Charlie Dexter is concerned about the "weakly-accepted local customs" in Texas—how does he propose to remedy the situation. By ostracizing the South? By denying all aid and encouragement to the progressive Negro and white forces in Texas who have to combat Jimcrow every day in the week?

And I can't help but feel that Dexter inferred in his column that the blame for Jimcrow is more due to the Southern people than the rulers of the south. At least that's the way phrase "weakly-accepted local customs" strikes us.

Dexter committed a similar mistake in referring to the city ordinance in Jacksonville which bans mixed teams—and which was the reason for three Montreal Royals games having been cancelled there because of the presence of Jackie Robinson and John Wright. Said Dexter yesterday: "Now that the truth about Jacksonville's local ordinance has become known, it should be fought . . . in the courts, if possible, if not by branding citizens of Jacksonville who acquiesce in this ordinance for what they in truth are—supporters of racism not different in quality from Hitlerism." Tues 4-2-46

This too, is more of an attack, it seems, against the people of Jacksonville than the pro-fascists who impose such ordinances there and in most every other city in the South. But Dexter evidently forgot that the trade union movement of Jacksonville strongly protested this jimcrow ordinance and urged the Montreal management to cancel the game rather than play there without Robinson and Wright.

So, were the local customs there "weakly accepted," as C. E. Dexter implied?

The final mistake which Dexter makes is to completely negate any advances made against Jimcrow in sports. Because, in an article such as he wrote, it's incomplete and inaccurate to present a negative picture without also pointing to what has been accomplished.

For instance, in discussing the incident at the New York Athletic Club last week, where NYAC officials tried to eject two Negroes from a True Magazine reader-forum, Dexter wrote: "What about the white readers and editors of True—did they enjoy the crack of Simon Legree's whip about their heads?"

But the fact is the white readers present put up a thrilling fight in behalf of the two Negroes in the audience. The fact is that the white readers and editors continued their forum in the dark rather than agree to the NYAC demand that the Negroes be removed from the meeting.

So it appears that Charlie Dexter put the shoe on the wrong foot throughout his entire column.

The fight against Jimcrow must be waged against the men who try to govern sports with an iron, profascist fist. Never must we misconstrue this as a fight agains the people whom Dexter claims are "weakly accepting" these things. The job is to unite all active and potentially active fighters against Jimcrow. The job is to show them what has been done thus far in organized baseball, boxing and professional football; and what can be done everywhere if such wedges are deepened by militant action until Jimcrow is completely kayoed.

Negro Coaches Attend NCAA Annual Convention

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.

ST. LOUIS — (Special) — Cleve L. Abbott, Ross C. Owen and R. S. Darnaby were Tuskegee institute representatives at the 40th annual Convention of the National Collegiate Athletic association at the Jefferson hotel here on Jan. 9 and 10. Sat 1-19-46

Other Negro representatives in attendance were T. L. Hill, Morgan State college, Baltimore; John H. Burr, Howard university, Washington, D. C.; Theodore A. Wright, Giles O. Wright, Xavier university, New Orleans; J. L. Whitehead, secretary-treasurer, Colored Intercollegiate Athletic association, Lawrenceville, Va.; Herman N. Neilson, Gideon Smith, Hampton institute, Hampton, Va.; David D. Rains, Lincoln university, Jefferson City, Mo.; Harry R. Jefferson, Virginia State college, Petersburg, Va., and Lieut. Charles Heard, Tuskegee Army Air Field, Tuskegee, Ala.

In this corner

Daily Worker New York

Sports as a Weapon for Democracy

Bill Mardo

Somebody asked me the other day: "How is it with so many important struggles bursting around us that you can still bother to concentrate on sports?"

And my answer was: the sports world and its athletes are as integral and vital a part of the American struggle as almost anything else you'd care to name. And haven't prominent sports figures often furthered the democratic good by using their profession and its wide appeal to aid the cause of the people? 2-13-46

Out in Los Angeles this Sunday, an event will occur which I consider a perfect example of the broader implications of sports. At the Los Angeles Coliseum, Buddy Young, Paul Governali, Kenny Washington and some of the finest football stars in the country will play a game for the benefit of the American Veterans' Committee. Most of the gate receips will go to the AVC for the purpose of converting garages and other structures into livable housing quarters for veterans and their families.

HENRY ARMSTRONG

Surely a classic example of how sports can be used as a weapon for the common good.

And just the other day, the great Joe Louis used his name and national stature to further the cause of labor. In a message sent to the CIO-Vet conference in Lansing, Mich., the Negro heavyweight king declared: "I wish to personally thank and commend the UAW-CIO veterans' division for its efforts to gain for returning veterans a greater share of the security for which they fought. Labor is the vanguard of democracy." 2-13-46

And such is the history of the sports world. For instance, a Joe DiMaggio will speak out against Jimcrow by calling Satchel Paige the greatest pitcher he ever faced. A Jesse Owens gives the lie to Hitler's Aryan baloney by personally making monkeys out of his Nazi competition on the Berlin cinder paths. A Joe Louis recognizes the broader implications involved in his second setto with Max Schmeling, identifies the Nazi braggard's pre-bout statements for what they are, and then proceeds to belt his Aryan brains out in two minutes of avengeful slugging. A Henry Armstrong highlights the coincident cause of all minority peoples by penning a sensitive poem about the oppressed Negroes and Jews on the eve of his bout with Barney Ross.

So many examples. Remember how some of the greatest pro basketball teams in the land donated their talents in games from which all proceeds went to Loyalist Spain? Recall the wonderful, militant statements issued by Tommy Farr, Jimmy Braddock, Tony Canzoneri and Joe Louis—hailing the release from prison of Tom Mooney? And how about that time in 1938, when the entire CCNY basketball squad refused to cross a Madison Square Garden picket line during a strike which involved the Garden employes? Or when the LIU hoopsters insisted that their Negro ace, Dolly King, remain in the lineup or else they'd refuse to take the floor against some southern team?

Yes, so many examples. And perhaps the most consistent example of sports as a weapon for the democratic good, is contained in the tremendous trade union sports movement in the middle west. There the whole issue of Negro-white unity has been magnificently bolstered by the democracy and lessons which flow naturally out of friendly competition.

I think enough examples have been cited to show how sports has and must continue to be used as a weapon on the side of all that is fair and honest. 2-13-46

And the athletes involved and the sports world in general hasn't suffered from this "pamphleteering." To the contrary, it has always been an affirmation that no phase of endeavor is separate and apart from the main stream of democratic political welfare.

Dewey Renames Powell to Board

New York Amsterdam News 1-26-46

First Negro Boxing Commissioner In N. Y. OK's for the Full 3-Year Term

ALBANY—(Special)—Dr. C. B. Powell, president and editor of the New York Amsterdam News, was on Friday reappointed to the State Athletic Commission for a full three-year term by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey. The appointment was sent to the Senate for conformation which is regarded here as a mere formality since Dr. Powell, the first Negro to serve as a member of the Commission in this state has had an exemplary record as a member of the three man board since he was appointed to succeed the late Bill Brown, who resigned in 1942.

The State Athletic Commission consists of three members appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate. The chairman of the Commission (Col. Eddie Eagan) receives a salary of $7,500 a year.

The other two commissioners, Dr. C. B. Powell and Gen. John J. Phelan, formerly the chairman, get $25 a day for attending at meetings. Col. Eagan's term as chairman expires January 1, 1948, while that of Commissioner Phelan ends January 1, 1947.

The Commission is a division of the Department of State. It has the sole direction, management and control of all boxing, sparring and wrestling matches in the State where admission is charged. 1-26-46

The elevation of a Negro to commissioner in the State athletic setup came after a long fight started by the Amsterdam News when Herbert H. Lehman was governor and the State was almost under complete control of the Democrats.

Nothing was done about giving Negroes the recognition they are entitled to based on the participation of hundreds of colored fighters in the many fight arenas throughout the State until Gov. Dewey was elected. Among his first appointments was that of Dr. Powell. The Governor indicated that color was not the basis of his choice. Instead, he demanded ability to do the job and made his selection on that ground.

Transfer To U. C. L. A. By Buddy Young May Start Probe On Coast

The Birmingham News Birmingham, Ala. 1-10-46

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 10—(AP)—Buddy Young, a dusky edition of mercury, is scheduled to pop himself into the middle today of the tempest he stirred up by announcing he may transfer from Illinois to U. C. L. A.

The great Negro halfback and sprinter's stay here—while he practices with some of his Fleet City Navy teammates for an all-star football game Jan. 20—may resolve the question once and for all. But again, it may not.

For dispatches from Champaign, where Young was working out with the track team at the university he attended before joining the service, quoted him as saying he had been promised a lucrative job after graduation from U. C. L. A.

And Pacific Coast Conference eligibility rules read: "Alumni may not offer or promise any prospective student who is an athlete any inducement of financial value (including employment opportunities) after graduation to influence . . . such athlete to attend a particular institution." 1-10-46

His transfer might well bring a conference investigation.

It's no secret that Young was widely feted last month by Kenny Washington, former Bruin star, and other prominent Negro citizens.

But the president of the Bruin Alumni Association, Frank McKeller, says he has no idea who made Young such an offer and doubts whether it was made.

Moreover, Buddy was quoted as saying he had received offers from 25 to 30 schools and two All-America pro league teams.

Yet there's no doubt that his presence would be a boon to coast conference gate receipts. Ask any of 60,000 spectators who saw the mercury-footed back run wild against the El Toro Marines in the coliseum.

Reappointed

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

DR. C. B. POWELL,

first colored man ever to serve on the New York State Athletic Commission, who was reappointed by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey last Thursday. Dr. Powell will serve a three-year term and will help supervise boxing and wrestling in New York.

Cooke Is Named President Of Colored Athletic Body

J. D. Cooke was named president of the South Alabama Athletic Conference for Negroes Saturday at a meeting of the conference held Saturday at Plateau. Virgil Rhodes was named vice president, W. O. Powell, secretary and Lemual Keeby, treasurer. Dr. Benjamin F. Baker was named president emeritus.

The conference will hold its next meeting at the Escambia County Training School at Atmore in December.

CIAA holds elections, changes rules at 33rd annual meet

The Los Angeles Tribune Los Angeles California 1-7-46

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Assn's. 33rd annual meeting closed here last week after a two-day session of business, rules, and elections.

John H. Burr, of Howard univ., was elected president and J. L. Whitehead, of St. Paul Polytechnic Institute, Laurenceville, Va., was reelected secretary-treasurer for the 16th year.

Burr, physical director and faculty member at Howard since 1923, has served two terms as vice-president of the CIAA and succeeds George S. Singleton, Virginia state college, who had served for four consecutive years. Whitehead has served for 22 years as an officer of the association.

Winston-Salem Teachers college, N. C., was admitted to the association at the meeting, making its membership sixteen. At the same time A & T college, Greensboro, S. C., was suspended for the 1946 basketball season for having used an ineligible student. Delaware state college was reprimanded for using a transfer student last season, but escaped suspension.

The conference clarified the rule governing returning GI's, and re-

vamped the transfer student participation rule to read for "one calendar year" instead of "one academic year".

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Dan Burley on SPORTS

New York Amsterdam News New York

The Jim Crow Line In Sports

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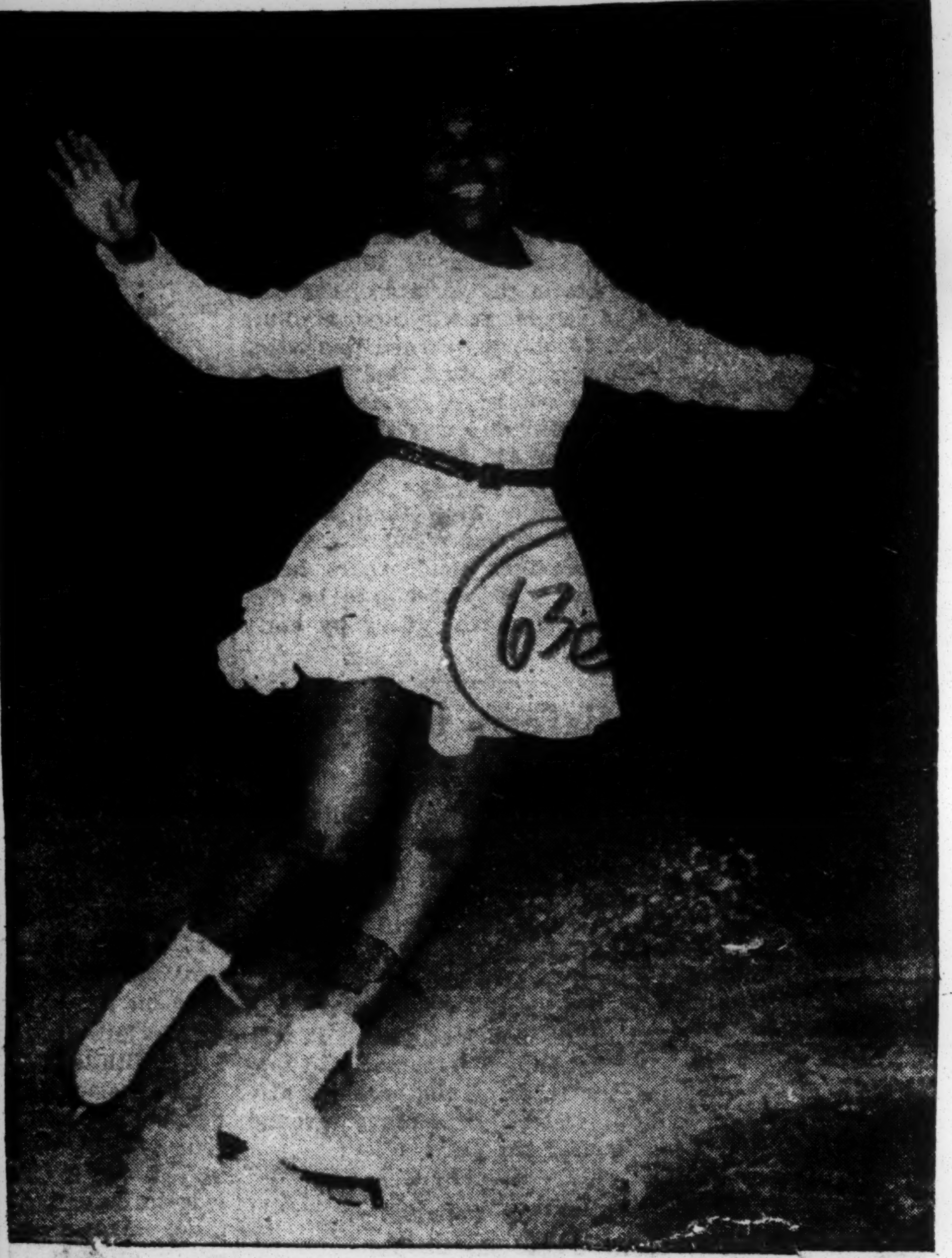


ICEBIRD—Nineteen-year-old Mabel Fairbanks, U. S. Negro ice skating queen, who learned her regal way around on a 6-foot square rink, will make her first appearance on the west coast here at the Lincoln theater March 8th.

Mabel Fairbanks' coach tells of local reception

Los Angeles Tribune, California
Sat 2-23-46

There have only been two unpleasant incidents, one turning out quite well, and so far Los Angeles' reception for his charge, Mabel Fairbanks (the black Sonja Henie), has been wonderful, Wally Hunter wrote Calvin's News Service in New York from the ice-skater's Central ave. headquarters this week.

"Ever since Mabel and I hit this town . . they have been carrying us like a house afire," Hunter said. "You would think they had never seen an ice-skater before (maybe they haven't). Anyway, all the papers covered our coming and we felt very welcome. This town has been guesting us to death every day."

First, said Hunter, they were guests of ex-actress Edith Spencer, in Pasadena. "And what a home she has. Like everybody else, she has a car and we've been riding in it."

In Pasadena, however, Miss Fairbanks and Hunter had their two snubs. First, they went to Robert's restaurant with Irene West, the skater's sponsor, and Earl Peterson (both white), and were refused service.

Then, at the Pasadena Ice rink, the manager was reluctant to admit them, not that he had any personal objection, but he was afraid some white skater would cut Miss Fairbanks up, so he said, adding that "California wasn't like other states".

"Of course, we gave him the horse laugh", said Hunter. "Not only did we go in, and not only did Mabel skate, and not only didn't any of the skaters hurt her, but the little white kids ate her up" while their elders just stood aside and watched Miss Fairbanks at work, and some of them even asked for lessons from her.

"And was the manager's face red!" said Hunter gleefully. "Among other things, he had told us that once a colored kid came there to skate and was chopped to pieces by white skaters. Now the only thing that was chopped up while Mabel was on the ice, was the ice itself. After we were ready to leave, we looked the manager up to get his reactions, and he wasn't man enough to face us."

Sat 2-23-46

Hunter also wrote glowingly of the ice-skater's visit to the Orpheum theatre's weekly celebrity night during Eddie Heywood's recent stay there.

Sees Need for Constructive Stories in Fight on Jimcrow

Daily Worker 1-14-46

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

In a recent issue Nat Low quoted what he called "an interesting letter" pertaining to his own lack of effort in getting anything done during the past season in ending Jim-Crow in football. This letter and his own comments on the problem were very good but are they not in the nature of criticism without constructive effort? More should be done in the nature of building public support and by that I mean the showing to the public what has been done, and done successfully.

Jim-Crow in sports is not a separate problem but only a branch of a major one and that in turn another force of reaction. It should be fought with the same methods as any other evil to be wiped out. New York, N.Y.

I have just left the U. S. Maritime Service where there is NO segregation, no separation, where Negro and White eat together, in the same mess halls, sleep together in the same barracks, attend classes together, play every sport imaginable together, atten on-station shows together, a living example of unity regardless of race, color and creed.

I, myself was an athletic instructor, teaching physical fitness classes, coaching athletic teams, and had the opportunity to observe democracy in action. This does not mean that we did not have manifestations of anti-Negro feeling or anti-Semitic feeling or any other minority problems. We had them because, like any other Service, our men came to us from every walk in life, every part of the country, with every prejudice that you can well imagine. When our men left and shipped out they took with them a feeling and spirit that they never came into the service with. We had our diehards and still have them, but those that went away with the true grasp of love for their fellow man regardless of race and color, have left their mark on all men.

Our sports program was as varied as any high school or college, with a few additions. Everyone competed and the competition was as keen as any can be imagined. The only criterion for success was ability, nothing else. Teamwork was stressed in every sport and it was shown to a remarkable degree. Our teams, representative of every race, color and creed, and locality, played in harmony, competed graciously, and sportsmanship was the keynote of competition.

Examples such as these, constructive proof of things happening not only in the service I left but elsewhere, are taking place. Progress is always slow, but nevertheless, progress.

Therefore, we should not only "get after" all those that hold the reins in their hands, but show where democracy works, and how well too. With best wishes for a full democracy in every phase of life.

W. G.

Negro Athletic Conference Has Nine Schools In

Nine four-year colleges are now members of the Southeastern Intercollegiate Athletic conference, according to Secretary W. C. Ervin, who read a report at an executive committee meeting held at Allen university yesterday.

Other business discussed by the committee included the approval of certified officials for 1946-47, formal acceptance of two new members, Albany State college, Albany, Ga., and Florida Normal and Industrial college, St. Augustine, Fla., consideration and formulation of an amendment of the constitution to combine the offices of secretary and treasurer, schools complying with the eligibility rules for players, entertainment of visiting players by host institutions, recommended that four officials be used in football and increased fees for these officials.

Colleges that are now members of the Southeastern conference are Allen university, Columbia, Claflin university, Orangeburg, Morris college, Sumter, Paine college, Augusta, Ga., Georgia State college, Savannah, Ga., Fort Valley State college, Fort Valley, Ga., Albany State college, Albany, Ga., Bethune-Cookman college, Daytona, Fla., and Florida Normal and Industrial college, St. Augustine, Fla.

Members of the committee present were R. L. Peaeuse, president, Columbia; W. C. Ervin, secretary-treasurer, Augusta, Ga., and J. D. McGhee, publicity, Orangeburg.

Ranking Athletes Honored At Courier Sports Banquet

LOS ANGELES—Bringing together what was probably the greatest collection of sports figures in the history of Negro newspaper promotions, the First Annual Sports Award Banquet, sponsored by the Coast Edition of The Pittsburgh Courier here Tuesday evening of last week, will be remembered as one of the year's most outstanding events.

The banquet, which paid tribute to the great Negro athletes of 1945, was staged in the beautiful, gaily decorated ballroom of the Elks' Temple, 607 South Park View in downtown Los Angeles.

LOUIS HONORED

And present to receive their awards—beautiful bronze statuettes—were such sports "names" as Joe Louis, Jackie Robinson, Claude (Buddy) Young, Don Barksdale and Kenny Washington.

Highlighting the banquet entertainment were Lena Horne, the Delta Rhythm Boys, Eddie Green, Lillian Randolph and Nat (King) Cole.

Mabel Fairbanks, the ice skating star, was introduced.

A prayer by Rev. D. DeWitt Turpeau, pastor of Hamilton Methodist Church, opened the program, followed by the singing of "God Bless America" by Miss Randolph of the "Great Gildersleeve" radio show.

Herman Hill, editor of the Coast Edition, welcomed the representative gathering, and J. Cullen Fentress, managing editor, spoke on "The Banquet and Its Purpose."

Leonard Reed, prominent night club and theatre figure, took over as master of ceremonies, and introduced Joe Reddy, publicity director of Walt Disney Studio, who presented the high school division awards.

These awards went to Bill Mathis, Cardozo High School, Washington, D. C., in track and field, and accepted by Henry Williams, middle distance star, who formerly attended Belmont High School here and Drake University; to Charles Coffey, San Diego High School, in football, and accepted by Ed Brent, Jefferson High School dash star, and to John Finney, Jordan High School, in football.

The popular Delta Rhythm Boys then scored with their renditions of "Just a Sittin' and a Rockin'" and "St. Louis Blues."

The track and field division awards were presented by Ben Person, sports writer for the Los Angeles Daily News.

These trophies went to Bob Kelly, formerly of the University of Illinois, now of the Navy, and accepted by Brice Taylor, former University of Southern California football star and now a coach at Jefferson High School here; to Barney Ewell, formerly of Penn State, and accepted by Ray Richards, line coach at the University of California at Los Angeles; to Alice Coachman, Tuskegee Institute, and accepted by E. G. Dean, cleaning and pressing shop proprietor and Tuskegee graduate, and to Sylvester Bell, formerly of Los Angeles City College, now of the Army, and accepted by California Jackie Wilson, the boxer.

Eddie Green of the "Duffy's Tavern" radio show had the banquet attendants in "stitches" with his "Grandfather" tales.

COURIER COMMENDED

Presenting special awards, which were scrolls, George A. Beavers Jr., chairman of the board and agency director of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company, commended the Coast Edition editors for their far-sightedness in staging the banquet, which has as its purpost to create a fund with which to aid worthy Negro athletes who wish to continue their athletic and educational careers, but who may lack the necessary monies.

Receiving scrolls were three Negroes identified with the turf—Walter McMorris, handicapper; Harry Mann, clocker, and Walter White, trainer. Scrolls for Mann and White were accepted by Hal Duncan.

Other scrolls were presented to Fred T. (Big) Long, Wiley College football coach, accepted by Fentress; to Al Jarvis of radio's "Make Believe Ballroom"; to Paul J. Schissler, coach of the Hollywood Bears, and accepted by his wife; to Atty. Jerry Giesler, to Ernest Bendy, who was "Dynamite" Jackson of the ring and who is California's first Negro referee; to Satchel Paige, famous pitcher, and accepted by Hill; to Henry Armstrong, accepted by Hill, and to Norman O. Houston, president and controller of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company and first Negro State Athletic Commissioner.

Famed Nat (King) Cole rendered two numbers in his inimitable style and then teamed with Lena Horne to "send" the gathering. Miss Horne previously had added her commendation of Coast Edition editors to those of previous speakers.

Basketball Division Awards were presented by Cece Hollingsworth, chief scout and UCLA backfield coach. They went to Don Barksdale of the Army, amateur and service; and to "Puggy" Bell, professional.

AWARD TO BARKSDALE

Another highlight of the evening was when W. R. (Bill) Schroeder, managing director of the Helms' Athletic Foundation, presented Barksdale with the Helms' medal for having been chosen by sports editors of local dailies as Athlete of the Month for December, 1945.

Schroeder then presented Jackie Robinson, property of the Brooklyn Dodgers, the award in the baseball division.

Bert LaBrucherie, UCLA head football coach, presented the football division awards to Joe Perry, formely of Compton Junior College, and now in the service, in jaysee football, and accepted by Chuck Cascales, Jefferson High coach; to George Taliaferro, Indiana University, in college football, and accepted by Bert Ritchey, former University of Southern California football and track star and now San Diego police inspector; to Claude (Buddy) Young, Fleet City, in service football.

Dr. John C. Coleman presented the boxing division awards to Joe Louis, world's heavyweight champion, and to Willie Joyce, ranking lightweight, and accepted by John Thomas, also a ranking lightweight.

Municipal Court Judge Edwin L. Jefferson in short, forceful remarks praised The Courier for taking what he described as a much needed, worthwhile step in the right direction. He predicted a greater and bigger sports awards fete next year.

In this corner

Big Six Students Demand: No Jimcrow Sports!

By Bill Mardo

JIMCROW in the Big Six Conference has long marred collegiate sports. The gentlemen's agreement among the particular midwest school concerned, barring Negroes from Big Six sports, is in sharp contrast to the lack of jimcrow on most other midwestern campuses.

Recently the student councils of the Universities of Kansas and Nebraska, and the colleges of Iowa State and Kansas State, passed resolutions urging their schools to permit Negro participation in Conference athletics.

All that came out of this fine student action was that the hitherto silent rule has now been written into the Big Six Conference books by the facutly representatives committee. The ruling leaves the issue of non-jimcrow sports up to the individual schools to be determined in accordance with State laws.

Not a word from this committee about putting into practice the elementary democratic precepts supposedly preached in the text-books; not a clear-cut statement in support of the growing tide of student resentment against jimcrow in Big Six sports. No, all the Conference Committee could see its way clear to doing was a formal acknowledgement of the jimcrow that does exist there.

However, this very formality, if utilized properly by the progressive student bodies on the campuses, could boomerang against Big Six discrimination and break down the jimcrow bars in several of the Conference schools.

For the rule which was just written into the Conference books says the issue of jimcrow sports can be determined by individual institutions in accordance with their State laws. Well, let's see. The Big Six includes the universities of Kansas, Nebraska, Kansas State, Iowa State, Missouri and Oklahoma A&M. Of that lot, only Oklahoma and Missouri are actually bound by state laws which would prevent Negro participation in Big Six sports. In Kansas the bias law only applies to primary and high schools in Kansas City—thus the student councils at the University of Kansas and Kansas State College have a fine opportunity of cracking jimcrow there if it presses the fight further. And from the still incomplete information we have at hand concerning bias laws in Iowa and Nebraska, it appears that a similar victory against discrimination could be won at Iowa State and the University of Nebraska.

It's highly important that the aforementioned Student Councils which passed end-jimcrow resolutions continue the fine fight it recently initiated. It should organize campus and neighborhood petitions in support of the resolution. With enough organization and militancy, jimcrow can be kayoed in the majority of Big Six schools. Let's Go!

SIAC officials meet at Fisk

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference met at Fisk university yesterday, it was announced by R. S. Darnaby, secretary of the conference. The university will also be host today to the 23rd annual meeting of the Southern Coaches and Officials Association, a part of the SIAC.

Comprising 15 colleges of Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, and Louisiana, the conference met to discuss procedures and schedules for the major competitive intercollegiate sports during the 1946 school year. Approximately 50 representatives attended.

Of particular interest this fall will be the return to intercollegiate football of LeMoyne college, Memphis, Tenn.; South Carolina State A. and M. college, Orangeburg; Ft. Valley State Teachers college, Ft. Valley, Georgia; and Fisk university.

Dr. St. Elmo Brady, of Fisk, is president of the conference. President and secretary of the coaches and officials association are, respectively, G. Hobson, of Alabama A. and M. college, and C. Johnson Dunn, Alabama State Teachers college.

The 15 institutions represented in the SIAC include: Alabama: A. and M., Tuskegee, and State Teachers; Tennessee: Lane, Knoxville, LeMoyne, and Fisk; South Carolina: State A. and M., and Benedict; Georgia: Morehouse, Clark, Morris-Brown, and Ft. Valley State Teachers; Florida A. and M.; and Xavier university, in New Orleans.

BLOUNT--Speaks Softly

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

By GEORGE W. BLOUNT

Sat 4-13-46

ANSWERING PRAYERS: Here is a story that will probably throw some light on that thought-provoking and debatable subject—Prayer and Its Answer. The story is told of Frederick Douglass that in the days of his slavery he used to pray often for freedom, but his prayers were not answered until they got down into his own legs and feet and he ran away. In that particular type of —Prayer and Its Answer—we are coming increasingly to believe. The Lord helps those who help themselves. There are times when individuals, races, and nations can help answer their own prayers.

MR. BLOUNT

* * * *

RACIAL BARRIERS are fading slowly but surely and they will continue to fade as long as Negroes continue to qualify for positions and fight for recognition, and to make good in the fields of education, business, professions, sports, on the stage and screen, and in the field of the fine arts.

In the field of sports there are Joe Louis, John Wright, Jackie Robinson, Jesse Owens and countless other amateurs, semi-professionals, and professionals, who are not traveling incognito as Cubans, Mexicans, or Indians. No attempt is being made to disguise their racial identity. North of the Mason-Dixon line, many white high schools, colleges, and universities have had Negro competitors in football, baseball, basketball, track and other sports.

Sat 4-13-46

Despite the unwritten law in baseball, there are some people who recall that in the 1880s Negroes played on both the Newark and the Buffalo baseball teams. Every normal and intelligent Negro should have a seat at a ringside, or in the orchestra or grandstand, or standing on the sidelines, as it were, appaling and cheering lustily and hoping that Negroes will continuously and increasingly make the very best possible use of every opportunity until the last vestige of a barrier has faded entirely out of the racial picture.

JACOBS, RICKEY, FELLER AND CO.

The Whip Miami, Fla. Sat 10-19-46

The abolition movement in New England did more than any other one thing to precipitate the events resulting in the War Between The States. The Negro in particular and the nation in general owe the Abolitionists a debt of gratitude that becomes more colossal as the generations pass. These Abolitionists not only fought and died for their "cause" but they saw to it that schools were established for the education of the freedmen: and it is these schools that are affording the leadership of the Negroes of today.

In other words more effective than the efforts of American slaves to free themselves were the efforts of these Abolitionists, imbued only with the spirit of brotherhood and good-will. When we consider how these Abolitionists sacrificed, with no rewards in sight but the cause of human betterment; when I note the absence of anything that savored of pecuniary considerations, I am convinced that good-will among men is not a hollow mockery.

We cannot, therefore, speak contemptibly of good will in interracial matters. It was a vital thing during the days of slavery and it is a potent thing today. Although at times the good-will that prevails lacks dramatic implementation, it is nevertheless a definite factor in the struggles of the Negro race. Without a sufficient number of whites of goodwill our future would be considerably more uncertain. What is more, Negroes should see to it that this goodwill be rightly heralded in deepest gratitude.

The private schools that stud the south are mute testimonials to the good-will of northern whites of a former generation. There is no corresponding material manifestation of such good will today; but there are nevertheless unmistakable signs that there are still those of good will among the whites of the north and south. When a southern white woman reads the story of George Carver's life and decides to send a Negro boy through college, it is difficult to see anything but a display of good-will. But it is in the field of sports and athletics that we see hopeful signs that there are whites who care.

"Uncle Mike" Jacobs, whose stranglehold on the Madison Square Garden concessions is too well known to need recounting here; but Joe Louis and the Negro race owe much to this big-time sports mogul. When Jack Dempsey had the "Negro evasion habit," that left Harry Willis at the post, Jim Braddock was found broad enough to take on all comers, Negroes included. Braddock could have evaded as well as Dempsey, but he did not. When Louis bumped into Braddock he was bumping into one of the largest fortunes ever to come a Negro's way. Without the good will of "Uncle Mike" buttressed by the good business sense he evidences so unmistakably Louis never would have worn the pugilistic crown.

But today the field is full of white athletes who do not hesitate to take on Negroes in the face of a clearly defined movement to outlaw Negroes from everything that looks like a decent opportunity. Mike Jacobs would have made money, even if Negroes had been excluded from the championship bouts. These white-Negro matches are no longer rare occurrences, and what is more, they are not occasions for riots as some Negrophobes are wont to fear. Recently I attended mixed bouts in St. Louis and Baltimore and in both cases whites and Negroes seemed to enjoy seeing their own do their stuff against all comers.

Then came Branch Rickey formerly of the St. Louis Cardinals. In St. Louis Negroes were not until recently allowed in the grandstand in Sportsman park. Yet when Branch Rickey went to Brooklyn he conceived the notion of opening the doors of the National league to Negroes.

In this corner

Jim Ford Chats About His Sports Days

Daily Worker New York, New York

By Bill Mardo

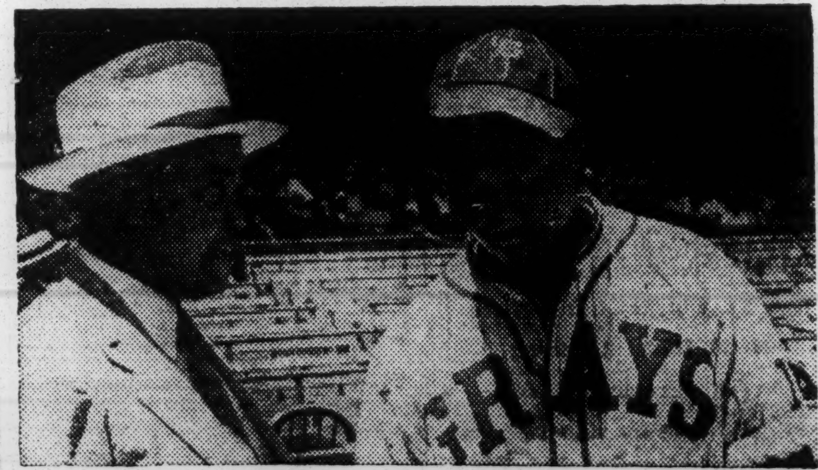
I remember a warm summer afternoon at Camp Unity in '41 when a tall, well-built gent stepped up to the plate on the softball field, picked a pitch he liked, and sent it screaming against the distant tennis court screen in left centerfield. Amid all the oohs and aahs one onlooker softly whistled: "Say, who is that guy?" Somebody else proudly answered: "That's Jim Ford of the Communist Party."

Yes, that's Jim Ford, veteran Negro spokesman of the Communist Party and formerly a fine all-round athlete at high school, college and later in semi-pro sports. Had a chat with him the other afternoon and, great sports fan that he is, talk soon drifted to baseball and Jim shyly admitted (not for publication of course) that he'd rooted for Boston this past World Series and now shares the mourning garb being worn by the man who co-authors this page with yours truly.

Thurs. 10-24-46

Ford's first serious crack at sports came when he worked as a kid at the steel plant of the Tennessee Coal' Iron & Railroad Co. at Ensley, Alabama. Baseball competition was organized among various plant teams and it was there Jim showed the talent that was to make him a topnotch baseball and football performer at the Industrial High School in Birmingham.

But Jim really blossomed out when he entered Nashville's Fisk University in 1913. "I made the regular football team my first year and played throughout my college career," he recalled yesterday. "In 1915 Fisk University won the undisputed football championship of the South. I played halfback on that team, which was one of the finest elevens in Fisk's history. We were coached by Dr. L. E. Walker, who himself had been on the Harvard squad during the days of Charley Brickley, the great Harvard drop-kicker." That same 1915 season was the year when Jim Ford became one of the few Fisk



Here's Jim Ford talking with Josh Gibson, the great homerun king of Negro baseball.

athletes to ever win all three letters for football, baseball and track. He also played for his class basketball team.

Jim's sports activity continued during the first World War when he organized exhibitions for the 325th Field Signal Battalion of the 92d Division stationed in France. Ford's outfit swept one of the big Army field day events.

"On my return from France I began to play baseball for the Chicago Post Office League. I captained a team composed of Negro and white workers." Jim paused a moment and added: "As a matter of fact, the composition of that team was Polish-American, Jewish-American, Irish, Filipino and Negro. I believe it was 1927 when we copped the Post Office League championship."

During that time Jim also played semi-pro baseball with a couple of Negro nines, including the Evanston Stars and the Chicago Giants. The Giants were one of the crack Negro teams of that time, managed by the famous Rube Foster and toured throughout the Loop City

area. "We competed with the best white semi-pro clubs, often made up of ex-big leaguers," said Jim.

Jim, ever the all-round athlete, also sparked for the Lincoln Stars professional football team during the off-baseball season. The Stars were coached by one of the greatest Negro gridders who ever lived, Brown University's immortal Fritz Pollard, who went to the Rose Bowl and practically won the Tournament of Roses game against Washington single-handed. As an afterthought to his reminiscences of the Stars, Jim remarked: "The owner of the Stars was Bill Bottoms, the man who is Joe Louis' chief chef for all of the champ's fights."

So, friends, there's the story of Jim Ford's remarkable sports career. And don't think for a moment that Jim is ever too busy with his Communist duties to ignore the present-day athletic scene. Jim is still an avid reader of all the sports pages and when a guy like that tells you his favorite sports sheet is this one, well, it kinda makes the anemic chests of Mardo and Rodney puff with pride. And it was Jim Ford who worked so closely with the Daily Worker sports scribes when this paper first started the campaign to end Jimcrow in organized baseball.

Yes, he's a great guy, is Jim Ford. A wonderful athlete who signed up with the Communist Party to knock out many more home-runs and score many more touchdowns in the bigger fight for a better world.

In this corner

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

Wed. 9-11-46

To Whom This May Concern: Sports IS a Weapon

By Bill Mardo

Why is it that so many sincere and hard-fighting progressives grossly underestimate the role of sports in the American and, yes, the world scene?

Why is it that some people who so clearly understand the political weather-vane are in a fog where sports is concerned, and persist in maintaining a narrow, sectarian approch to a phase of life that has a stronger grip upon the affections and emotions of the people than almost anything else you care to name?

On vacation recently we had the opportunity to talk with many types of people. Good, honest people—many of whom break their backs night and day in the critical fight against reaction. We were amazed to discover how many of them are completely ignorant about the sports scene and divorce sports from politics as if it were some freakish appendage which has the same social value as a third-rate comic strip. This school of thought can best be illustrated by an incident that occurred during our vacation. An announcement was made at noon-time reminding the campers that this writer was going to lecture on sports that afternoon. One young lady at a nearby table in the dining room was heard to remark: **"What's he going to talk about—sports and its social significance?"**—and she thereupon rocked with laughter. Oh, it was very funny, imagine, trying to connect sports with the main stream of American life. The young lady (a very fine and militant anti-fascist) was invited to attend our lecture and this is what we told her, and indirectly, all those like her who are horribly off the beam where sports is concerned:

If you are rightly convinced that art is a weapon, then consider the simple statement that sports can be, and often is, a million times more powerful a weapon! Look at the American sports scene alone, for a moment. Millions upon millions of Americans, from the moment they're old enough to read a box-score, become avid baseball fans for life. Today those millions of baseball fans are quite aware that Negroes are being lynched left and right in the South. Today those millions of baseball fans are quite aware of the obnoxious attacks against the Negro people which a Bilbo and Talmadge so loudly spill from one end of the country to the other. White supremacy, white supremacy, white supremacy—the Hitlerian theme-song is never let up by the Ku Kluxers and native fascists. It's droned over and over again. Yet what, in one fell swoop, does as much to arm and educate the American people against this monstrous lie as do all the pamphlets in the world? Yes, what? Could it be the sight of a Negro ball player in organized baseball today? Could it be the sight of Jackie Robinson playing baseball alongside his white teammates—playing, eating and living with them, leading the entire league in batting, sparking his ball club to a pennant, being cheered by a million fans who want to know not of his color, but how many hits did he get today, how many bases did he steal, how many runs has he scored.

Is this a weapon, my friends, a mighty political weapon to be wielded against those who would drag America down into the dirt of fascism—with a terror campaign against the Negroes as their starting point?

Yes, sports is a weapon.

When ballplayers rise up in arms against the big business men of baseball and demand better working conditions, and seriously discuss the question of unionizing their profession—is this something entirely disconnected from the wage struggles which all the American people are so seriously confronted with today? So we see sports as a weapon on the labor scene, too. And here it might be noted that it was because organized labor stood off to one side and viewed this issue of a trade union in baseball as something apart, strange and freakish, that the first round was lost to the millionaire clubowners who wooed the players away from the American Baseball Guild with a company-union type of set-up.

For one week in October, let me ask you, what event will be page one news in all the papers, will consume nearly the undivided attention of every person in the land? Certainly we're referring to the World Series. A sports event, competition between the two best teams in baseball, something which will hog all the radio time in the afternoon, much of the newspaper space in the evening and morning papers, all of the sidewalk discussion on every street corner in America. So then, how can one afford to look down his nose at the sports scene, belittle its social spotlight and dismiss it as something amusing, yes, but don't bother me, I've got too many other IMPORTANT things to think about.

When a Negro, Joe Louis, fights in the prize ring—is there anyone who can estimate just how many hundreds of millions all over the world have their ears glued to the radios and follow the blow-by-blow description with bated breath? And when that Negro champion once ripped a representative of the Nazi superman race into a quivering, screaming, helpless wreck within two minutes of scientific punching, is there anyone who can deny what that boxing triumph also meant in terms of the political struggle against Hitler's ideology?

It would be well for those who lightly dismiss sports to ask themselves a simple question: Why is it that the Big Press of America whose sole role is to lie, lie and lie, and to smooth the path for world reaction —yes, why is it that those immense publications wouldn't think of trying to poison the minds of the American people without first luring them to their pages with an appealing, expensive sports section and a host of experienced sports writers? Yes, we're very much afraid that the pro-fascists understand much better than the progressive forces in America, the potent grip that sports has on the American appetite. And the fascists on a worldwide scale have always been quite quick to use sports as a selling point, a Lorelei with which to attract mass youth support to the fascist program. The memory of Der Fuehrer using sports to build his Hitler Youth armies should still be too fresh in our minds to ever forget how well the fascists have come to recognize sports as a political weapon.

And on the other hand, it would be wise to remember the great stress laid upon sports in that greatest democracy of all, the heroic Soviet Union, which almost from its inception, has encouraged and developed a mass sports and body-building program which actively involves millions. And all the rising young democracies in Europe are giving the same serious attention to sports.

So all this, then, is in the way of an anxious admonition to those honest progressives in this country, too many of whom, unfortunately, sell sports short. A terrible, terrible mistake.

Jackie Robinson No. 1 Athlete of the Year

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Montreal Baseball Star Tops Louis, Rhodes in AFRO Poll

Sat. 12-28-46

BALTIMORE

Jackie Robinson winner of the International League batting championship while playing his first year of organized baseball, was voted the No. 1 athlete of 1946 in a recent AFRO poll. The Montreal Royal second base star bested Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis by six points in the balloting of most of the nation's leading sportswriters.

Jackie Robinson

Louis was seven points ahead of Theodore (Teddy) Rhodes, the Nashville golfer who captured the Joe Louis Open Tournament and then became the first of his race to win a cash prize competing in a field which included some of the world's greatest linksmen.

This occurred in the Tam O' Shanter All-American tourney at Chicago last July.

Following Rhodes was Levi Jackson, sensational fullback of the Yale University football team, who gained his high rating with stellar performances in his role as a pioneer in Bulldog gridiron activity.

Fifth place went to Herb McKenley, speedy University of Illinois quarter-miler, who set new world's records in both the 300-yard and 400-meters races the past summer.

Also recipients of votes in the poll were Marion Motley, brilliant Cleveland Brown fullback, who had a large share in the winning of the first All-America Conference professional championship; Harrison Dillard, dual AAU outdoor hurdles champion; Roy Campanella, catcher of the Nashua (N.H.) club of the New England Baseball League; Lloyd Scott of Prairie View, Tex., twice national tennis champ, and Ray (Sugar) Robinson, NYC, recent winner of the world welterweight boxing title.

Ratings in No. 1 Athletes' Poll

Athlete	Sport	Points
Jackie Robinson	Baseball	25
Joe Louis	Boxing	19
Teddy Rhodes	Golf	12
Levi Jackson	Football	9
Herb McKenley	Track	7

Other point-winners: Marion Motley, football; Harrison Dillard, track; Roy Campanella, baseball; Lloyd Scott, tennis, and Ray (Sugar) Robinson, boxing.

63

Vote Full Power To Commissioner Harvey

Daily Worker

ATLANTA, Ga. — (SNS) — The Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in its annual meeting here Friday and Saturday, held on the campus Clark College, voted full power to the Commissioner of Athletics. He will pass upon all matters of eligibility and his decisions will not be subject to review. The matter of eligibility has for several years been a subject of far-reaching importance, consuming much time of the athletic and coaches in annual sessions. It was felt that in voting full authority to B .T. Harvey, Morehouse College, Commissioner, the matter would remain a closed issue in the future.

Dean A. A. McPheeters welcomed the delegates to Clark College. He pointed out the important role of the coaches of athletic teams play in student life on a college campus and praised the high character of their work. Dr. St. Elmo Brady, of Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, President of the Conference, who presided, responded to the gracious remarks of Dean McPheeters and thanked him on behalf of the Conference for his cordial words of welcome.

MORE COLLEGES TO PLAY BASEBALI.

Inasmuch as baseball holds a future for young men with talent in this sport, it was the opinion of the Conference that baseball should be restored to the athletic program in the Conference schools. Frank L. Forbes, Morehouse College, chairman of the baseball committee, stated that a series of games were played during the Spring of 1946 with Florida A. and M. College, Morehouse College, Alabama State Teachers College and Tuskegee Institute as the participating teams. He stated further that while no championship was declared. Tuskegee Institute was not defeated in Conference play. These same colleges will field baseball teams during the Spring of 1947, he stated. Other schools indicating that they will endeavor to field baseball teams during the oncoming baseball season were Benedict College, Fisk University, Morris Brown College, South Carolina State College and LeMoyne College.

The proposal from Florida A. and M. College, Tallahassee, that the Constitution be amended to permit a player declared ineligible because of having participated in professional athletics in a sport, that he be declared eligible to participate in the sport or sports in which he was not ruled ineligible. The proposal was rejected

The Conference also rejected the proposal of Florida A. and M. College which would permit an ineligible player in the Conference to play in games with out-of-conference teams. *Atlanta, Ga.*

NAME BOXING COMMITTEE

There was an interesting discussion on the matter of conducting a boxing tournament under sponsorship of the Conference as it was thought that interest in that sport should be stimulated. Ollie Dawson State College, Orangeburg, South Carolina, was named Chairman of the Boxing Committee, with C. L. Abbott, Tuskegee Institute, and B. T. Harvey, Morehouse College as associates. They are to make a study of the proposal and report at the Spring Meeting. *Sat. 12-14-46*

CAPTAIN DARNABY DELEGATE TO NCAA

R. S. Darnaby, the Conference Secretary-Treasurer was named to represent the Conference at the annual meeting of the National Collegiate Athletic Association which will be held at Hotel New Yorker, New York City, January 5-9, 1947.

C. L. Abbott, a member of the Olympic Committee urged the coaches to take stock of their track and field talent and to begin now to prepare young men who show promise in these sports for the Olympic Games which are scheduled to be held in London, England, in 1948. *Wed.*

The football championship was awarded to Florida A. and M. College. Second place was awarded to Lane College, Jackson, Tenn., and third place went to Tuskegee.

ANNOUNCE DATE FOR BASKETBALL TOURNEY

C. L. Abbott, Chairman of the Basketball Tournament Committee announced that the annual Southern Conference Basketball Tournament would be held in Logan Hall. Tuskegee Institute, February 27, 28 and March 1; that the annual Tuskegee Relay Carnival would be held in the Alumni Bowl, May 3, the Golf Tournament and the Tennis Tournament on May 2 and 3, and the Women's Championship and Sports Day on May 2.

The committee on the selection of the All-Conference football team made the following report:

Nathaniel Powell, end, Florida A. and M. College.

James Holmes, tackle, Morris Brown College.

John Jackson, guard, Clark College.

Raymond Hill, center, Benedict College.

Alexander Shepherd, guard, Morris Brown College.

William Brewington, tackle, Florida A. and M. College.

Eugene Porter, end, Tuskegee Institute.

William Battles, quarterback, Lane College.

Whitney Van Cleve, back, Tuskegee.

Henry Bowman, back, South Carolina State College.

Evan Gilmore, back, Benedict College.

SECOND TEAM

William Roberts, end, South Carolina State College.

Marion Harrison, tackle, South Carolina State College.

Andrew Belle, guard, Tuskegee Institute.

Forest McKinney, center, Florida A. and M. College.

Lawrence Pressley, guard, Alabama State Teachers College.

William Wysinger, tackle, Morris Brown College.

Jeffrey Jennings, end ,Clark College.

Robert Moore, quarterback, Tuskegee Institute.

Defoy Arnold, back, Morris Brown College.

Jack Gilmore, back, Lane College.

Theodore Montgomery, back, of Florida A. and M. College.

Frank L. Forbes, Chairman of the Track and Field Committee, reported on the activities in this sport in the Conference, stating that interest in track and field is increasing and that indications are that there will be a large number of entrants in the Tuskegee Relays and in the SIAC Track and Field Championships which are held annually in Atlanta.

FORBES HONORS PHYSICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Upon the recommendation of the Conference, President Brady appointed Frank L. Forbes Chairman of the Committee on Health, Physical Education and Recreation and named Ollie Dawson and Henderson A. Johnson as his associates.

A resolution was passed thanking the administrative officials, faculty and students of Clark College for their generous hospitality and the press for the splendid work it had done in the interest of sports and for its fine influence and support of the athletic program of the schools and colleges through the years.

The representatives were guests of Clark College at Clark-25th Infantry basketball game Friday night and the Morris Brown-Tuskegee basketball game on Saturday night.

RE-ELECT OFFICERS

The present officers of the Conference were re-elected. They are Dr. St. Elmo Bradley, Fisk University, President; A. S. Gaither, Florida A. and M. College, H. A. Johnson, Fisk University, Ollie Dawson State College, Orangeburg, South Carolina, Vice-Presidents, R. S. Darnaby, Tuskegee Institute, Secretary-Treasurer and Frank L. Forbes, Morehouse College, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.

The Conference accepted the invitation of Clark College and voted to return to that school for the 1947 meeting which will be held on Friday and Saturday, December 12 and 13.

Officers of the Conference, coaches and athletics directors in attendance at the meeting: C. Johnson Dunn, Alabama State Teachers College; G. H. Hobsan, Alabama A. and M. Institute; J. H. Richards, also of A. and M. Institute; L. N. Stallworth, George Sheats and T. J. Hanberry, Benedict College, Charles McPherson, J. J. Dennis and Dean A. A. McPheeters, Clark College; Dr. St. Elmo Brady, Henderson, A. Johnson, Fisk University; A. S. Gaither, R. P. Griffin, Edward Oglesby, Hansel Tooks, Ulysses Jones, Florida A. and M. College; Richard Craig, Dean W. W. E. Blanchett, Fort Valley State College; James K. Hilyard, Knoxville College; E. J. Clemons, Lane College; Frank L. Forbes, Marshall Arnold, B. T. Harvey, Morehouse College; A. J. Lockhart, H. B. Thompson, Dr. Artis P. Graves, Morris Brown College; Ollie Dawson, Paul Webber, State College, Orangeburg, S. C.; C. L. Abbott, R. S. Darnaby, Edward H. Adams, of Tuskegee Institute; Theodore A. Wright, Xavier University, Taylor C. D. Hayes, LeMoyne College; Lt. Lloyd Jones, Lt. Eddie Williams, Lt. Alpheus Perry, 25th Infantry, Fort Benning, Georgia; W. W. Lawson, Allen University; Thomas A. Hart, Talladege College and R. G. Matthews, Bethune Cookman College.

Other schools indicating that they will endeavor to field baseball teams during the oncoming baseball season were Benedict College, Fisk University, Morris Brown College, South Carolina State College and LeMoyne College. *Fri. 12-20-46*

Tuskegee, Fisk and Other SIAC Schools To Try Baseball In '47

Globe and Independent

Nashville, Tenn.

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Interesting Letter From Wrestling Fan

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 11-6-46

Dear Les:

As one of your fans, I'd like to suggest professional wrestling as a topic to discuss in our column. Let me begin by saying pro wrestling is the most undemocratic of sports, more crooked than politics and even more Jimcrow than baseball.

No American athlete on his own merits can rise above mediocrity in this field. He must give way to flabby undertrained freaks and what have you (Carnera—L. R.), not to mention the prearranged fix on every match.

To my knowledge there is but one Negro star, Don Blackman, who rates among the nation's best, yet due to the color bar he's relegated to an infrequent preliminary. Compare this to the more democratic boxing game, where Negroes take the lead.

The exploiting promoters grossly underpay the wrestlers and admit only a very tiny minority of men to their sacred cliques yearly.

It will be noted with interest that many grapplers have now organized and are chartered by a trade union, thus elevating their wages three-fold.

Pressure must be exerted by the sports writers in particular to restore a semblance of fairness to what was once the king of all sports.

How do you feel about it, Les?

Yours in sports,
V. SALERNO.
Camden, N. J.

Yes, professional wrestling is crooked. In fact, it's become such a ridiculous travesty on sports that it's hardly possible to restore a "semblance of fairness" to it. Certainly anybody paying to see a match should know by now he is seeing an exhibition not an athletic contest. If the participants can organize and increase their wages more power to them, of course. But it still isn't sports. And won't be until the promoters who corrupt and degrade athletes into becoming ham actors are thrown out. Meanwhile, we'll have to take our wrestling on the amateur side, and a fine, clean underrated sport real wrestling is. Thanks for the letter.

63f 1946

Tan 'Bobby' Jones Wins Big Florida Golf Tourney

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 6-8-46

By CALVIN E. ADAMS

JACKSONVILLE—The long tee shots and solid iron drives, aided by flawless pitching and putting on the greens enabled Robert (Bobby) Jones, pro at the Lincoln Golf and Country Club to win the $500 Open Golf tournament with a score of 203 for fifty-four holes. Taking the lead in the first day, Jones never lost, but was in trouble when he missed a three-foot putt on the sixteenth green. Zeke Hartsfield of Atlanta, past UGA champ, shot the best golf of the tournament. At the end of the first day of play, Zeke was nine strokes behind Jones. The first day Jones' score was par 99 for twenty-seven holes, while Zeke trailed in ninth place with 108.

COMES FROM BEHIND

Hartsfield shot some of the best golf ever witnessed on the links of the Lincoln Club. For the first eighteen holes, he shot a five under par 61. Jones managed to shoot 70 which was four over par.

At the end of the first twenty-seven holes, Joe Daniels of Jacksonville was in second place with 101, while Shederick Smith, St. Petersburg, with 105 was in third place. Denegald of Savannah, Ga., was in the fourth position with 106.

Top money of $150 was taken by Jones; second place receipts of $100 went to Hartsfield. Others ended as follows: C. C. Richardson, Daytona Beach, 209; Joe Daniels and Ben Patrick, Savannah, tied with 210 each; H. Denegald, Savanah, 211; Ralph Dawkins, Jax, 213; Leroy Little, Jax, Richard Terrell, Atlanta; King Morgan, Orlando, 214; John H. Johnson, Jax, 215; Richard DeLaney, Jax; John Clark of Hartford, Conn., now visiting pro at Daytona Beach, and Jack Jackson, Jax, 218.

The field of twenty-two amateurs was dominated by Nathan Craddick and Charles Sheppard, who tied for first place with 217. The seecon prize was divided between Jimmie Burris, William Barrett and Bill Brown. Burris and Barrett are Jaxons and Brown hails from Atlanta. Their score was 225. *Sat. 6-8-46*

The Lincoln Golf and Country Club and the Jacksonville Negro Golfers Association have voted to increase the tournament to $1,000 and the matches may be increased from fifty-four holes of play to the usual seventy-two.

Many of the country's leading golfers who had registered to enter this tournament had to forfeit their entries due to the recent railway strike. In spite of this, there was a field of seventy players. Fifty-one professional and twenty-two amateurs. They came from as far North as Hartford, Conn. Many of those participating have already made plans to attend the Joe Louis Open, Tam O'Shanter and the UGA Nationals.

IN JOE LOUIS OPEN

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 7-20-46

Mrs. Cleo Ball, Chicago Women's Golf Club member and National United Golfers' Association champion, is among the number of women entries in the Joe Louis Open tournament in Detroit this week. She is the wife of Robert "Pat" Ball, former national champion of the UGA and pro at the Wayside Golf Club, Chicago. Ball also is playing in the tournament in the pro division.

Joe Louis Oper Starts July 16

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Solomon Hughes And Sammy Stewart Back

Sat. 7-13-46

By RUSS J. COWANS

DETROIT—The highlight of the boys and gals who chase the elusive pellet on the fairways is the third annual $2,000 Joe Louis Open Invitational golf tournament, opening Tuesday, July 16, on Detroit's testing Rackham course and continuing through Thursday.

The tournament, which was canceled during the years of 1943-44, has drawn a field of more than 125 topnotch entries, including the women golfers who will be competing in the tournament for the first time. The women will compete in a separate division.

The two defending champions—Solomon Hughes, Gadsden, Ala., winner of the pro title, and Samuel Stewart, Baltimore school teacher, winner of the amateur crown—will return to protect their honors.

Clyde Martin, the gifted Washingtonian and winner of the first Louis Open, will be among those seeking to dethrone Hughes in the pro division.

One of the pre-tournament favorites is Theodore Rhodes, the talented pro from Nashville and current instructor for Joe Louis. Rhodes, who finished sixth last year, has been shooting in the low

70's, and has been selected by Louis as the possible winner.

In addition, Ben Green, New Orleans; Alton Smith, Indianapolis; Chink Stewart, Norfolk, Va., and Eddie Jackson, and Bob Seymour, Detroit, are others who will be given serious consideration in the battle for the $500 top prize.

* * *

BECAUSE OF HIS sensational shooting in recent weeks, Leonard Reed, Detroit, looms as one of the big threats facing Samuel Stewart in the retention of his amateur crown. Reed blasted the Warren Valley course, considered tougher than Rackham, for a two under par 69 two weeks ago.

Marcus King, Detroit, Pruett Houston, Willie Moseley, and Tup Holmes are other threats in the amateur division.

Arguing it out in the women's division will be such talented golfers as Mrs. Pat Ball, holder of the national title; Mrs. Thelma McTyre Cowans, former Ohio amateur champion and winner of the Southern Amateur; Mrs. Theresa Howell, former Southern champion; Mrs. Marie Jones, former national champion, and Mrs. Juanita Worlds Thomas.

Louis will compete in the amateur division, and the simon pures cannot hold him cheaply as he has been walloping the oval for scores in the low 70's. In fact, it will not be a surprise if the champ captures the crown.

Bernard Odell, director of the tournament, said this week that he had arranged several special matches for the large crowd which is expected to see the three-day tourney.

TED RHODES FAVORITE IN JOE'S TOURNEY

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-20-46

DETROIT—A surprisingly strong field of 300 golfers from as far west as California, the deep south and Massachusetts, participated as the third annual $2,000 Joe Louis Open Invitational golf tournament started Monday morning. The 72-hole test was over the 6,582 yard Rackham course.

TRIP TO CHICAGO

The 18-hole qualifying round Monday cut the amateur field. The qualifiers played 18 holes Tuesday, the same number Wednesday and Thursday. The winning amateur will get a one-week trip to the Tam O'Shanter tournament in Chicago, plus a trophy.

The pros started in quest of the $750 top prize Tuesday morning. Second place will get $375; third place, $250; fourth, $1... and fifth, $100.

RHODES FAVORED

As the money players started in pursuit of the big prize over the picturesque Rackham course, Theodore Rhodes, Nashville, was the big favorite. This selection by the golf followers was predicted on Rhodes winning the Forest City tournament in Cleveland last week with 149.

Other important divot-digging artists are Clyde Martin, winner of the first tournament; Zeke Hartsfield, Atlanta, Ga., winner of the Southern Open; Eddie Jackson, Bob Seymour, Benny Davis, Jerry Hood, Detroit; Walter (Chink) Stewart, Norfolk, Va.; John Derby, Atlanta, former UGA champion; Pat Ball, Chicago, another former UGA champion; Clifford Strickland, Los Angeles; Howard Wheeler and the defending champion, Solomon Hughes, Gadsden, Ala.

Samuel Stewart, Baltimore school teacher, was back to defend his amateur title, and expected plenty of trouble from Dr. Remus Robinson, Leonard Reed and Tutt Holmes, Detroit. Joe Louis, who lost to Robinson in the Cleveland tournament, played in the amateur division.

Detroit had a strong contingent in the women's division: Mrs. Theresa Howell, winner of the Cleveland crown; Mrs. Thelma McTyre Cowans, Mrs. Alice Stewart, Mrs. Marie Jones, Mrs. Jeanetta Worlds Thomas. Mrs. Pat Ball headed the Chicago women seeking the honors From Indianapolis came Mrs. Lucy Williams.

IN LOUIS' TOURNEY—Dr. Remus Robinson, winner of the national open crown in 1940, is one of the ranking favorites to cop honors in the Joe Louis Open in Detroit this week.

Sat. 7-20-46

WINNER? — Solomon Hughes of Minneapolis, one of the favorites in the pro division of the Joe Louis Open, being played this week in Detroit. He won the 1945 tournament with a 297 score.

Teddy Rhodes, Nashville, Wins Louis Open Golf Title

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Champ's Instructor Fires 290 to Take Pro Crown; L.A. Golfer Cops Amateur

Sat. 7-27-46

DETROIT.—Theodore (Teddy) Rhodes, 33-year-old Nashville, Tenn., professional, captured the $750 first prize in the third annual $2,000 Joe Louis Open at Rackham Golf Course here last week.

Rhodes has served as the Bomber's instructor since the latter was discharged from the armed forces.

In the 72-hole tourney, Rhodes fired a total of 290, which was two strokes behind the mark set by Clyde Martin of Washington in 1942.

Two weeks ago, Rhodes captured the Forest City Tournament at Cleveland, O. In his second consecutive major tournament victory Rhodes shot a 37-33 for the final 18 holes.

Wheeler Second

Pvt. Howard Wheeler, of Fort Eustis, Va., was second, three strokes behind the winner. Wheeler fired a 69 on his final round to win over Sam Davis, New Orleans, and Solomon Hughes, St. Paul, the defending champion, who tied at 296.

At the start of the final 18 holes, Rhodes, who was trailing Willie Mosely, Detroit, by two strokes, shot a 37, then knocked out four birdies for a 33 and one under par 70.

Mosely finished with a 79 for 297 tying with Ulysses Neal, Detroit, for fifth place.

Hoosier Best Femme

Joe Louis was knocked out of the amateur division by Dr. Remus Robinson, Detroit. Dr. Robinson got hot on the back nine to blast out an eagle and three birdies, putting the Brown Bomber down, 3 and 2. However, Joe had the satisfaction of eliminating the defending champion, Samuel Stewart, Baltimore, 6 and 4.

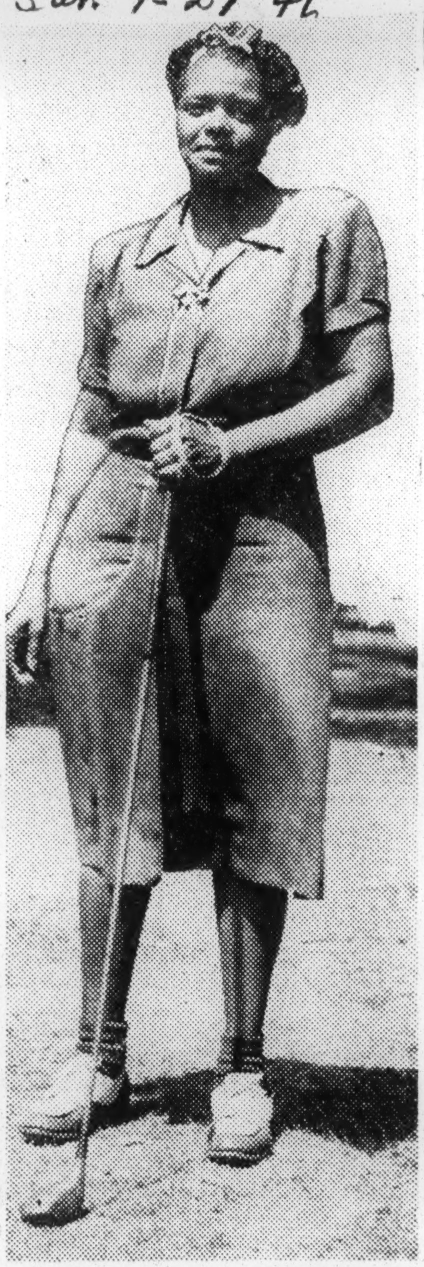
Bill Spiller, Los Angeles, won the amateur crown plus a free trip to the Tam O'Shanter tourney at Chicago this week by defeating Judson Grant, Los Angeles, 4 and 3.

Mrs. Lucy Williams Mitchums, Indianapolis, captured the women's crown by defeating Mrs. Marjorie Cabbell, Indianapolis, 3 and 2.

Gus Houze, Detroit, won over Jacob Simmons, Chicago 5 and 4 to take the first flight. Howard Anderson, Toledo, Ohio defeated John Wright, Miami, Fla., 6 and 4, to win the second flight, and Harry Tapsico, Detroit, defeated Cary Moseley, Detroit, 2 and 1 to win the third flight.

Anne Gregory Gary, Ind., defeated Aline Woods, Detroit, 6 and 5, to win the women's first flight, and Mildred Bufkin, Toledo, defeated Mrs. Laura Pierson, Cleveland, 5 and 4, to win the second flight.

Ulysses Neal and Willie Moseley had 297 to split $150; Walter (Chink) Stewart had 298 for $100; James Clark and Clyde Martin had 299 to split $75; Lucius Mumford, Detroit, had 300 for $60; Hugh Smith, Chicago, had 301 for $50; John Green, Indianapolis, and Joe Roach, Indianapolis, had 309 to split $40.



MRS. LUCY W. MITCHUMS.

Louis Golf Crown Winner

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 7-27-46

THEODORE (TEDDY) RHODES,
33-year-old Nashville professional who won the third annual Joe Louis tournament at Rackham, Detroit, with 290, two strokes under the mark made by Clyde Martin, Washington, D.C., in 1942. In addition to the top prize of $750, Rhodes also received the Calvin Searles Memorial trophy, shown in the above photo.

63f 1946

City Park Commission Provides Temporary Golf Course For Negro Players At Lincoln Park

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—

A nine-hole temporary public golf course for use of Memphis Negroes has been provided by the City Park Commission, it was learned this week.

First knowledge of the city's action was obtained last Sunday, thru Robert Wright, well-known Orange Mound civic and business leader. Mr. Wright, who has long been a golf enthusiast, stated that the local course is located, for the time being, in Lincoln Park, Negro recreational center on Highway 51, just south of South Parkway.

Mr. Wright said, "Already, more than a score of Negro golfers have been meeting regularly each week for the past month to play on the Lincoln course, when it was learned that provision had been made for them. Many of the players had been using a home-made course at Lincoln Park previously. It was this course which the Park Commission improved for the temporary city-sponsored facility they are now using.

Wright indicated that he has learned from reliable sources that the city will give favorable consideration to the preparation of a larger and more convenient golf course for local Negroes of sufficient interest in the game is shown and if enough colored people become active players here.

Both men and women are using the present temporary course. And, according to Mr. Wright, "I have never seen surch a great show of steady interest in a sport. I am also pleased at the number of folks who expressed a desire to play and who expressed their appreciation that there is to be a real golf course for the use of colored people of Memphis." Indications, he said, are that the number will increase greatly before the end of the presetn summer.

Plans are being considered for the staging of a tournament among Memphis Negro golfers as a means of highlighting the extent of their interest in the sport, and as climax to the pioneer activity of the first players here. Plans for the tournament are still largely in the discussion stage, he pointed out.

Many well-known local Negro citizens are users of the present temporary course at Lincoln Park

Mr. Wright said, other players are welcomed.... promising that older players are on hand to teach them the game and give assistance in getting started. No admission fee is required. The only outlaw is the purchase of golf clubs by those desiring to play.

Louis Ups Golf Tournament Money

DETROIT—Joe Louis has upped the prize money for his third annual golf tournament at Rackham Park, July 16-18 to $2,000. In addition, the world heavyweight champion has thrown the tournament open to women for the first time. In addition, there will be a $100 Victory Bond to the low scoring pro and amateur.

Clyde Martin won the tournament in 1941. Solomon Hughes was winner last year. The tournament was discontinued in 1942, '43 and '44 because of the war.

Yorkshire Golf Club To Stage $1,500 Tournament

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The 17th annual national open golf championship for colored people will be held August 27-30 at the South Park Golf Course Pittsburgh, Pa., under the auspices of the Yorkshire Golf Club, Doctor A R. Harris, chairman of the tournament, committee, announced last Friday.

Cash prizes totaling $1500 will be awarded to winners, with $500 and a trophy going to first place and $275 and a trophy to the runner-up.

The 13th annual amateur championship for women and the 15th annual championship for men will also be staged at the Yorkshire Club with qualifying rounds beginning Tuesday, August 27, Dr Harris said.

Preliminary arrangements call for championship flights of 32 in both the men and women's championships with four prizes being awarded in each championship flight and two in each other flight list

Women To Play In Joe Louis Open

DETROIT—When Joe Louis announced several weeks ago that his Joe Louis Invitational Open golf tournament would be open to women, he set in motion an army of women competitors who will be seeking the first crown to be set up in this $2,000 tournament.

One of the first to take advantage of this opening was Marie Jones, former United Golf association champion. Mrs. Jones first won the crown in 1930, repeated in 1931 and 1934, and then captured the Amateur Golf association championship here, in 1941, a few weeks before the first Louis open.

The former champion has been handicapped in recent weeks because of a cut on her right thumb, but will begin practicing this week at Rackham.

Joe Louis a Good Golfer

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—Joe Louis, the world heavyweight boxing champion, is going to turn amateur, after his title fight with Billy Conn in the Yankee Stadium, June 19. Don't get excited, Joe is not going back to the ranks of the Golden Gloves, but the champion intends to enter the National Amateur golf tournament later this summer.

Few fight fans know that Louis is one of the best journeymen golfers in the country. He shoots regularly in the low seventies and on a number of occasions has even broken seventy. Joe shot a 68 on the Indian Bounding course in Chicago and also shot a 69 on the Bunker Hill links also in the Windy City. He has shot 70 any number of times, on different courses all around the country.

Golf is Joe's first love as a sport next, of course, to boxing. He just can't wait until he gets back on the links. Joe says the first thing he will do after the championship fight is to get out on the golf links.

Louis has played with such outstanding stars as Sam Snead, Byron Nelson, Ben Hogan, Jimmy Demarest, Lawson Little, "Jug" McSpaden and many other stars.

When Louis is in Hollywood, he often goes golfing with the outstanding movie stars. He has played time and time again with Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, and Clark Gable.

Fairview Golfers Score Easy Win Over Monumentals

BALTIMORE

A strong team of 19 mashie-wielders reprsenting the Fairview Golf Club of Philadelphia, registered a snappy 21½ to 8½ victory over the Monumental Golf Association at the Carroll Park course on Sunday, marking the first defeat of the season for the locals.

Although heavy rains reduced the effectiveness of the players and hampered them in many of their strokes, both teams played with high enthusiasm.

Most decisive wins of the day were chalked up by E. Davis and R. Sims of the visitors over the Monumentals' A. Johnson and W. Wright; D. Palmer and E. Dales of Philadelphia over C. Hutchins and B. Cook of Baltimore, and N. Wallace and C. Brashears of the locals over invaders Chapman and Sidwell.

Teams were composed as follow:

FAIRVIEW

J. Davis—T. McDonald; D. Pinkett—W. Peoples; E. Davis—R. Simms; D. Palmer — E. Dales; L. Miller — M. Thomas; H. Miller—G. Rivers; Chapman — Sidwell; T. Cole—J. Newman; A. Taylor—J. Jones; J. Hudson.

MONUMENTAL

R. Reddick—J. Brashears; W. Adams—S. Stewart; A. Johnson—W. Wright; C. Hutchins—B. Cook; W. Johnson — E. Spruel; W. Burke—H. Parks; N. Wallace—C. Brashears; W. Dixon—P. White; C. Tarter—W. Clark; A. Bell.

Golf Challenge for Louis

MANCHESTER, Eng., June 20 (AP)—Dai Rees, professional golfer, leading British tournament winner this season, today challenged Joe Louis to a match in golf, not in boxing—if the world heavyweight visits Europe this summer. "I'd like to play him if he would like," said Rees.

St. Louis Golf Champs Awarded Trophies

ST. LOUIS — The members of the Paramount Golf club held its regular meeting at the home of Dr. and Mrs. S. D. Miller of 3638 Cook ave.

Miss Emily D. Joel, sponsor of the beautiful trophy which bears her name, was appointed by the club president to award the season's trophies. Those awarded were: Leroy Tyus, men's spring champion; Mack McCullum, runner-up; Mrs. Julia Siler, Women's champion; Mrs. Bessie Moore, runner-up. Abe Finney, handicap tournament champion; Fred Brown, handicap runner-up.

Entered In Joe Louis Tourney

Walter "Chink" Stewart, capable Norfolk golf pro, has again entered the Joe Louis pro golf tournament to be run off in Detroit July 17, 18, and 19. Stewart came near winning last year's Joe Louis tourney, shooting the lowest score of the tourney in the qualifying round. He is rated as one of the top starters in this year's competition.

11th Annual Ohio Golf Open July 5

CLEVELAND — Joe Louis will lead an array of golf's sharp shooters in the eleventh annual Ohio Amateur tournament, sponsored by the Forest City Golf club at Seneca golf course here July 5, 6, and 7.

Among those battling with Louis for the crown will be Dr. Remus Robinson of Detroit, Henry Jones, Indianapolis; London Baker, John Kockhart, Aaron Wheeler, John Henderson, Eddie Watson, Robert Jones, John Curry, James Davis, and many other Clevelanders.

Hughes Prepares To Defend Golf Crown

DETROIT—Solomon Hughes, the winner of the 1945 Joe Louis Invitational golf tournament, got in a few practice rounds when he stopped in Detroit last week on his way to New York for the Louis-Conn fight. Hughes will remain in the East for several weeks, playing golf with Louis and Theodore Rhodes.

The defending titlist, who will defend his crown at the Rackham course in Detroit July 16, 17, 18, said he is in top shape.

Joe Qualifies in Midwest Tourney

TOLEDO, O.—Joe Louis carded a 71, three under par, to take a place among 20 qualifiers for the Midwest Open Golf tournament, which got under way at the Bayview Course here Saturday.

Willie Mays, Washington, D.C., captured the medal with a score of 68 and William Spiller, Los Angeles, was second with a 69. A field of 130 teed off in the 18-hole qualifying round.

Teddy Rhodes Becomes First to Cop Cash Award in Tam O' Shanter Play

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 8-3-46

Nashville Links Artist Outplays Top Stars; Is 6 Strokes From $300 Class

CHICAGO.—Theodore (Teddy) Rhodes, Nashville, Tenn., winner of the Joe Louis Open Golf Crown, waged a brilliant battle here last week and emerged from the All-American Open Tournament with the best showing any tan linksman has ever made in the interracial event.

Teddy Rhodes

Lining up with the best golfers in the country, Rhodes checked in with a card of 297 for the 72-hole journey, finishing just nine strokes over par and only six strokes out of the select circle of $300 prize winners for the affair.

However, the young Tennessean tied for sixteenth place and became the first man of his race ever to win a cash prize while competing against white professional golfers. His award was $150.

72-Hole Card

Rhodes	72 - 73 - 75 - 76—297
Par	72 - 72 - 72 - 72—288

Beaten by such famous links luminaries as Byron Nelson, Ben Hogan, Gene Sarazen, Sam Byrd, Lawson Little and Lighthorse Harry Cooper, Rhodes, nevertheless, had in his wake a host of famous names in international golfing history.

Included among these were no less than Lloyd Mangrum, Chicago, 1946 national open titlist, whose card was high in the 300's following two final rounds of mediocre play.

Leads Good Ones

Also trailing him were:

Steven Doctor (305), runner-up for the low medal prize in the recent National Open Tournament, which is limited to white participants; Horton Smith (305), long a prominent figure in golfing circles: Deny Shute (301), twice Professional Golfers' Association champ and former British Open titleholder;

Craig Wood (high 300's), 1941 National Open champion and Canadian Open king in 1942, and Cooper who was twice winner of the Canadian Open crown.

The easy-going Nashville stroker was only three strokes behind Sam Snead and Herman Keiser at 294. Snead captured the PGA title in 1942 and the Canadian playoff in '40 and '41. Keiser, two months ago, took down first money in the fashionable Masters' Open title at Augusta, Ga.

Six Qualify

One stroke ahead of Rhodes was Johnny Revolta, who was a clever winner of the PGA crown in 1935 and has always been regarded as one of the country's most dangerous linksmen.

Total prizes were $46,500, with Herman Barron, white, of White Plains, N.Y., taking down first prize of $10,500 with a score of 280.

Six golfers qualified for the championship playoff. They were, in addition to Rhodes who has been serving recently as Joe Louis's instructor, were: Cpl. Howard Wheeler, cross-handed star of Fort Eustis, Va.; Clyde Martin, former Louis instructor from Washington, D.C.; Eddie Jackson of Chicago, Solomon Hughes, 1945 Louis Golf winner, who hails from Minneapolis, Minn., and Calvin Ingram of Lockport, Ill.

Only one amateur qualified. He was Oscar Clisby of Los Angeles, who chalked a first-round score of 77. He blew up in subsequent rounds, however, and was unplaced.

Negro Golfers Ask Use of Course

NORFOLK, June 26.—(AP)—A petition asking that the Memorial Park golf course be turned over for the use of Negroes for at least two days per week was presented to the City Council yesterday by L. A. Howell, Negro attorney, who said he represented approximately 50 Negro golfers whose names were signed to the petition.

The matter was referred to Acting City Manager Henry H. George, III, for an investigation, report and recommendation after Howell had asked that the request be taken under advisement and had appealed to the Council to take the step to further better feeling between the white and colored races.

Although the city now owns and operates two public golf courses, Howell said, there is no place here for Negro golfers to play and those who do play have to go to Washington, D. C., usually on Sundays, for their golfing. He displayed a pamphlet showing where several Norfolk Negro golfers had won trophies in a Negro tournament in Detroit.

Golf with Trimmings

Time Magazine Sun 8-5-46

At the first tee of Chicago's Tam O'Shanter Country Club, golfers stood around with sour looks on their faces and red numbers on the backs of their pants. A loudspeaker blared to the grandstand: "The next hitter, from Hollywood, California, the man who plays Joe Palooka in the movies—Joe Kirkwood Junior!" Elsewhere on the course, a "Masked Marvel," a man in kilts and Joe Louis were going their rounds. This was Chicago Promoter George S. May's idea of a golf tournament. It was in violent conflict with most golfers' ideas, yet the top pros, from Byron Nelson and Ben Hogan on down, were all there. The Tam O'Shanter offered prizes totaling $50,875, golfdom's bonanza of the year.

Sun 8-5-46

For his sixth annual carnival-tournament, flamboyant Promoter May drew the biggest crowds ever to see a golf tournament. They saw Herman Barron, 36, a stocky, swarthy veteran from White Plains, N.Y., score an 8-under-par 280 to beat the big names. It was worth $10,500. Ellsworth Vines, ex-tennis champ who turned to golf in 1940 because he considered it less monotonous, came his closest yet to winning a major tournament, taking the $4,325 second money with a 281. Vines was one of twelve pros who refused to wear an identification number; if he had worn one like a good boy, under Promoter May's rules his prize would have been $5,000.

Pat Ball Enters Joe Louis' Open Golf Tournament

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 7-6-46

By RUSS J. COWANS

DETROIT — Detroit will play host to the third annual $2,000 Joe Louis Invitational Open Golf Tournament July 16, 17, 18.

Professional and amateur championships will be decided on the terrain at the Rackham course, just four miles beyond the city limits.

Pat Ball

The annual tournament, which was put on the shelf in 1943 and 1944, has drawn the largest field since it was inaugurated in the summer of 1942.

Competitors include Solomon Hughes, winner of the 1945 tournament; Clyde Martin, winner of the first tournament; Samuel Stewart, winner of the amateur title in 1945, Chicago's Pat Ball, former national champion, and many others.

Despite the fact that it is the first time the bars have been lowered to allow women to compete, Bernard Odell, director of the tournament, said an extremely large field will be competing for honors.

* * *

DETROIT IS PINNING ITS hopes on the sharp shooting of Eddie Jackson, Bob Seymour, Benny Davis, Tom Jackson, and Jerry Hood in the pro ranks. However, they'll face some formidable foes in John Denby from Asheville, N. C.; Zeke Hartsfield, Atlanta; Howard Wheeler, now in the armed forces, and Theodore Rhodes, Nashville pro, who has been traveling with Louis.

Regarded as one of the toughest of the home-grown amateurs is Leonard Reed, former producer of floor shows at Club Congo and Club Zombie. A keen student of the game, Reed fired a sparkling sub-par 69 on the tough Warren Valley lay-out last week.

Louis, who arrived here early this week after competing in the tournament in Cleveland, will play in the amateur division.

The Rackham course is an exacting 18-hole 71-par layout, measuring 6445 yards—3225 on the outgoing nine and 3220 coming back. It's a 35-par going on the first nine and 36 coming.

The longest hole is the 510 seventh with a par of five, but there are many players who will tell you that every hole is a long one. Cleveland last week with 149.

* * *

OTHER IMPORTANT divot-digging artists are Clye Martin, winner of the first tournament; Zeke Hartsfield, Atlanta Ga., winner of the Southern open; Eddie Jackson, Bob Seymour, Benny Davis, Jerry Hood, gifted Detroiters; Walter (Chink) Stewart, Norfolk, Va.; John Derby, Atlanta, former UGA champion; Pat Ball, Chicago, another UGA titleholder. Clifford Strickland, California; Howard Wheeler, and the defending champion, Solomon Hughes, Gadsden, Ala.

Samuel Stewart, Baltimore school teacher, was back to defend his amateur title, and expects plenty of trouble from Dr. Remus Robinson and Leonard Reed, Detroit. Joe Louis, who lost to Robinson in Cleveland, also competed in the amateur division.

Detroit had a strong contingent in the women's division: Mrs. Theresa Howell, winner of the Cleveland crown; Mrs. Thelma McTyre Cowans, Mrs. Marie Jones and Mrs. Jeanetta Worlds Thomas. Mrs. Pat Ball, Chicago; Mrs. Lucy Williams, Indianapolis.

WINNER

The Defender

Chicago, Ill. Sat 7-20-46

Mrs. Thresa Howell, Detroit, winner of the women's championship in the Cleveland amateur tournament Sunday, July 7. She is one of the entries in the Joe Louis open in Detroit which started July 16 but will meet Mrs. Cleo Ball and other top-notchers who are in the Motor City for the play. This is the first year that the Joe Louis tourney has been open to women.

Play Starts In Joe Louis Open

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Winning Amateur To Tam O' Shanter

Sat. 7-20-46

DETROIT — A surprisingly strong field of 300 golfers from as far west as California, the deep South and Massachusetts, participated as the third annual $2,000 Joe Louis Open Invitational golf tournament started Monday morning. The 72-hole test was over the 6,582 yard Rackham course.

The 18-hole qualifying round Monday cut the amateur field. The qualifiers played 18 holes Tuesday, the same number Wednesday and Thursday.

The winning amateur will get a one week trip to the Tam O'Shanter tournament in Chicago, plus a trophy.

The pros started in quest of the $750 top prize Tuesday. Second place will get $375; third place, $250; fourth, $150, and fifth, $100.

As the money players started in pursuit of the big prize over the picturesque Rackham course, Theodore Rhodes, Nashville, was the big favorite. This selection was predicated on Rhodes winning of the Forest City tournament in

63h 1946

Lloyd Scott, Kathryn Irvis Top '45 ATA Net Ratings

Afro American Baltimore, Md

Sat 4-13-46

Two National Champions Pace Field as Scott Also Wins No. 1 Berth in Doubles

RALEIGH, N.C.—Lloyd Scott and Mrs. Kathryn Irvis of Prairie View, Texas, and Pittsburgh, Pa., respectively, were placed at the top of men's and women's tennis in the annual American Tennis Association ratings for 1945, released this week by Arthur P. Chippey, secretary of the association.

Selections announced by Miss Laura V. Junior of the ratings committee of the ATA also placed Scott at the top of the men's doubles rankings with his partner, Louis Graves of New York.

Scott captured the 1945 men's crown for the second straight year, defeating Jimmy McDaniel of Los Angeles, who was rated second. Mrs. Irvis returned to the wars after a long layoff, to down Detroit's Lillian Van Buren, No. 2 woman racketer.

Other ratings follow:

MEN'S SINGLES

1. Lloyd Scott, Prairie View, Tex.
2. Jimmie McDaniel, Los Angeles.
3. Dr. Reginald Weir, New York.
4. John Chandler, Fanwood, N.J.
5. Maurice Jackson, Washington, D.C.
6. Louis Graves, New York.
7. Francis Powell, Tuskegee, Ala.
8. Delbert Russell, Detroit, Mich.
9. Howard Minnis, Tuskegee, Ala.
10. Ronald Fieullteau, Tuskegee, Ala.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

1. Kathryn Irvis, Pittsburgh, Pa.
2. Lillian Van Buren, Detroit, Mich.
3. Roumania Peters, Tuskegee, Ala.
4. Nana Davis, Elizabeth, N.J.
5. Gwen McDaniel, Los Angeles.
6. Lavinia Moore, Detroit.
7. Mildred Brown, Tuskegee.
8. Anna B. Showers, Brooklyn, N.Y.
9. Florence Barnes Washington, D.C.
10. A. Martin, Bermuda, B.W.I.

JUNIOR SINGLES

1. Franklyn Bailey, Orangeburg, S.C.
2. Clyde C Freeman, Washington.
3. Hilton Davis, Elizabeth, N.J.
4. David Jordan, Nashville, Tenn.
5. Nelson Antley, Englewood, N.J.
6. J. Wendell Freeman, Washington.
7. Carl R. Blackman, Brooklyn.
8. Asa W. Anderson, Philadelphia.
9. Rudyard Foley, Los Angeles.

GIRLS' SINGLES

1. Althea Gibson, New York.
2. Jean Branch, Cleveland, O.
3. Gwendolyn Neely, New York.
4. Gwen Whittington, New York.

BOYS' SINGLES

1. Wilbert Davis, New York.
2. Thomas Freeman, Washington.
3. Maynard Driver, Brooklyn, N.Y.
4. Harold P. Freeman, Washington.
5. Edward Bragg, Brooklyn, N.Y.

VETERANS' SINGLES

1. John B. Garrett, Tuskegee, Ala.
2. Dr. E. B. Downing, Roanoke, Va.
3. Fred Johnson, New York
4. Naaman Henson, Philadelphia.
5. Dr. C. W. Furlonge, Smithfield, N.C.

Sat 4-13-46

MEN'S DOUBLES

1. Lloyd Scott and Louis Graves—(Texas - New York)
2. Jim McDaniel and Al McDaniel—(Los Angeles, Calif.)
3. Doug Henderson and John Wood—(Baltimore, Md.)
4. Nathaniel Jackson and Dr. Hubert Eaton—(Wilmington, N.C.)
5. M. Jackson and C. Jones—(Washington - New York)

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

1. R. Peters and M. Peters—(Tuskegee, Ala.)
2. Ora Washington and A. Gant—(Philadelphia - Washington)
3. G. McDaniel and E. Thornton—(Los Angeles, Calif.)
4. Martha Davis and Matilda Davis—(Elizabeth, N.J.)
5. Doris Miles and T. McDaniel—(Richmond, Va.)

JUNIOR DOUBLES

1. Fred Wilson and Hilton Davis—(New York - New Jersey)
2. F. Bailey and Asa Anderson—(South Carolina - Pennsylvania)
3. Clyde Freeman and T. Freeman—(Washington, D.C.)
4. H. Freeman and W. Freeman—(Washington, D.C.)

MIXED DOUBLES

1. Lillian Van Buren and Delbert Russell—(Detroit, Mich.)
2. Kathryn Irvis and Dr. R. Walter Johnson—(Pennsylvania-Virginia)
3. Eoline Thornton and John Chandler—(California-New Jersey)
4. Anita Gant and Dudley Woodward—(Washington-New Jersey)
5. Frances Gittens and Wm. (Babe) Jones—(Brooklyn-Baltimore)

Tennis Clinic Will Be Held at Negro College

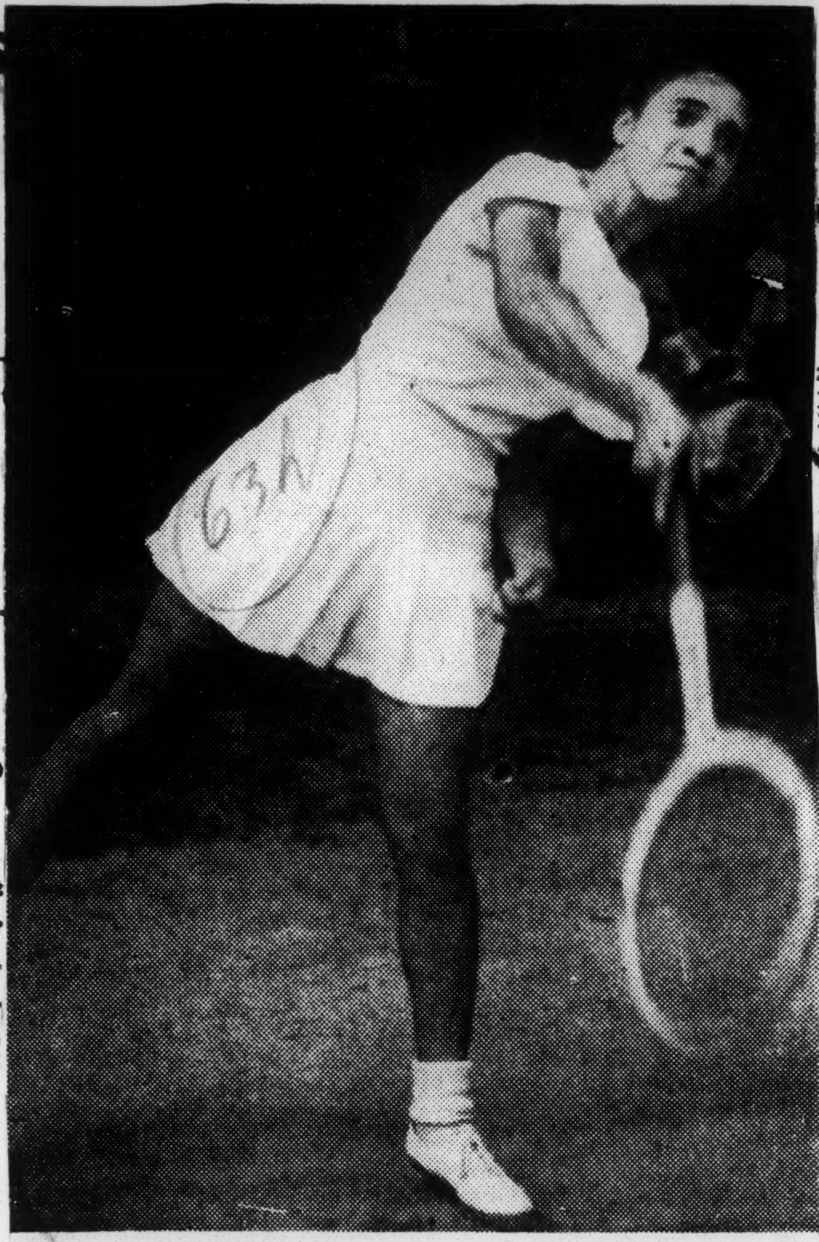
Orangeburg, Oct. 4. — William C. Lufler, Davidson college tennis coach, formerly at Presbyterian college, will conduct a two-day tennis clinic and participate in exhibition matches at State A. & M. college Friday and Saturday, October 11 and 12.

Many high schools and tennis clubs in South Carolina have been invited to participate in the first event of the 1946-47 tennis program sponsored by the college and South Carolina Tennis association, who are members of the American Tennis association.

The clinic on Friday has been set apart for high schools and juniors and on Saturday for colleges and adults. Both days exhibition matches will be played.

Invited players expected to participate in the exhibition matches include Dr. Walter Johnson, Lynchburg, Va.; W. L. Cook, Durham, N. C.; Dr. Hubert Eaton and Nathaniel Jackson, Wilmington, N. C.; Dr. John L. McGuff and son, Portsmouth, Va., and Dr. Ellwood Downing, Roanoke, Va.

Lufler will be assisted by "Bill" Ellis, tennis coach, Forest Lake Country club, Columbia. Sam Daniel, state champion, is expected to participate in the exhibition matches.



BEST OF THE FEMININE STARS—Miss Roumania Peters, who won the women's singles title last week in the North Carolina Open Tennis Meet. She copped the title by beating Mrs. Cleve Abbott in the finals.

Penna., N. Y. State Open to Precede National Net Play

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 7-27-46

NEW YORK.—Two championships of the American Tennis Association take the spotlight next month before the National Championships to be held at Wilberforce, O., Aug. 19-24.

The first of these major tournaments is the Pennsylvania Open, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Tennis Association on courts of the Germantown YWCA, Aug. 1-4 inclusive.

Six events are listed on the official entry blank for the Pennsylvania Open. They are men's singles, junior singles, men's doubles, women's singles, veterans' singles and mixed doubles.

The 28th annual New York Open championships to be held on the Cosmopolitan courts in New York City Aug. 5-11 follow the Pennsylvania.

In 1944 and 1945, the New York Tennis Association was host for the Nationals and did not hold the State Open. After this two-year lapse from the tennis calendar officials of the NYTA are preparing for a record entry of high calibre players.

Net Dates for the Notebook

New Jersey Tennis Association—Eastern Sectional tournament, Scotch Plains, N.J., July 22 to 28.

Pennsylvania Tennis Association—Open tournament, Germantown, Pa., Aug. 1 to 4.

New York Tennis Association—Open tournament, New York City, Aug. 5 to 11.

New England Tennis Association—Closed tournament, Boston, Aug. 31.

McDaniel, Roumania Peters Win National Net Titles

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-31-46

By FAY YOUNG

WILBERFORCE, Ohio. — Climaxing a week of brilliant tennis play and some fine weather, the 29th national championships of the American Tennis association came to an end Saturday afternoon, Aug. 24, with Jimmy McDaniel, three times national intercollegiate champion and men's singles national champion in 1939, '40 and '41, defeating Lloyd Scott, Prairie View, Texas, defending champion, 6-4, 3-6, 2-6, 7-5, 6-2.

It was a battle for revenge as Scott had defeated McDaniel in straight sets in 1945. Scott, on a furlough from the army, won the championship in 1944.

McDaniel, who hails from Los Angeles, teamed with James Stocks, Pasadena, Calif., to win the national championship in the men's doubles, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3, from Lloyd Scott and Louis Graves, New York City.

With Mrs. Kathryn Jones Irvis, twice national and defending champion in the women's singles, not competing, little Roumania Peters, victor in 1944, out-volleyed and crossed courted on Miss Althea Gibson, coming New Yorker, to triumph 6-4, 7-9, 6-3.

* * *

TEAMING UP WITH her sister, Margaret, Miss Roumania Peters formed the duo of Peters and Peters, 1945 champions, who successfully defended their national doubles title by defeating Mrs. Francis Gittens and Mrs. Myrtle Beavers, both of New York City, 6-1, 6-2.

Clyde Freeman, Washington, D. C., won the junior singles honors from Hilton Davis, Elizabeth, N. J., 6-2, 7-5, 6-2. The girls singles championship went to Gwendolyn Whittington, New York City, 6-4, 6-4, over Joyce R. Cook, Durham, N. C.

George Lewis, Miami, Fla., forced Tommy Freeman, Washington, D. C., to extend himself in the second set to win 7-5 and the title in the boys' singles. The first set went to the Floridan, 6-3.

* * *

IN THE VETERAN'S singles, John D. Garrett, Tuskegee, took Dr. Elwood Downing, Roanoke, Va., into camp, 6-4, 6-2.

The mixed doubles championship was won by Miss Ora Washington, Philadelphia, and George Stewart, Panama, 6-2, 6-4. The losers were Mrs. Lillian Van Buren and Delbert Russell, both of Detroit's Motor City Tennis club.

The Junior doubles went to Tomas Freeman and Clyde Freeman, Washington, D. C., 6-2, 6-3, 7-5, but not until the last point was won did Hilton Davis, Elizabeth, N. J., and Maynard Clark Jr., Newark, N. J., give up.

Walter Austin, Southern University's Southwestern conference net champion, took the measure of Jack Points, Wilberforce University, 6-3, 7-5, to become the new Intercollegiate champion.

In an exhibition match of Friday, Charles Hare, Davis and Wright cup star, and his wife, Miss Mary Hardwick, also top ranking woman player, both white, entertained the throng who packed every inch of space in the grandstand. Hare defeated his wife, 6-3.

In an interracial doubles exhibition match, Miss Lula Ballard and Jimmy McDaniel defeated the Hare-Hardwick combination, 8-6. Hare defeated George Stewart of Philadelphia, 6-2, and Miss Hardwick won over Mrs. Flora Lomax of Detroit, 6-1.

Jim McDaniels regains U. S. Negro singles title

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif. Sat. 9-7-46

WILBERFORCE, O. — Rallying in the final two sets, former champion Jimmy McDaniels, Los Angeles, upset defending champion Lloyd Scott, Prairie View, Tex., 6-4, 3-6, 2-6, 7-5, 6-2, to win the U. S. Negro national tennis singles crown here last Saturday in the 29th annual American Tennis Ass'n's tournament.

Seeded No. 2, McDaniels was given slight chance before the play to take the crown; and was even more of an underdog at the rest period when he trailed Scott by a set. When play resumed, however, McDaniels would not be denied, outplayed the lanky Texan all over the court, and took the next two sets and match.

McDaniels and his partner, veteran James Stokes, Pasadena, then captured the men's doubles in straight sets, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3, from Scott and Louis Graves, New York.

One hundred 20 men's singles entries, largest in 20 years, led the drawings in 10 events, and coupled with 217 overall singles entries (women entries accounting for the additional) and 88 doubles teams made up the five-day tournament play.

Miss Roumania Peters, Tuskegee, won the women's singles championship from Althea Gibson, colorful New Yorker, 6-4, 7-9, 6-3; and with her sister, Margaret, won the women's doubles from Francis Gittens and Myrtle Beavers, New York, 6-1, 6-2.

In the Intercollegiate finals, Walter Austin, CWIAA titlist, won a touch-and-go match from Wilberforce's Jack Points, 6-3, 7-5.

Mrs. Ora Washington teamed with Panamaian star George Stewart to win the mixed doubles from Mrs. Lillian Van Buren and Delbert Russell, of Detroit. However, Mrs. Van Buren played to the disadvantage of an injured elbow. The match went down 6-2, 6-4.

After a longtime monopoly on the veterans' title, Dr. Elwood Downing, Roanoke, Va., dentist, bowed before Tuskegee's Dr. John G. Garrett in a nip-and-tuck 6-4, 6-2 match.

In the juniors, Washington, D. C.'s brother entry, Clyde and Thomas Freeman, had things pretty much their own way. Clyde walked off with the singles crown from Hilton Davis, Elizabeth, N. J., 6-2, 7-5, 6-2. Together they took the doubles from Davis and Maynard Clark, N. J., 6-2, 6-3, 7-5. Thomas won the boys' singles from George Lewis, Miami, Fla., 6-3, 7-5.

Miss Gwynn Whittington, New York, won the girls singles from Miss Joyce Cook, Durham, N. C., 6-4, 6-4.

Feature attraction of the tournament was several exhibition matches between former British Davis players Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hare. Miss Lulu Ballard, Cleveland, and McDaniels beat the Britishers, 8-6, in a doubles set; and in single matches both the visitors won, Mrs. Hare defeated Miss Flora Lomax Sullivan, New York, 6-1; and Hare beat George Stewart 6-2.

Scott Retains Singles Title In Southwest

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-6-46

By R. W. HILLIARD

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas—National Champion Lloyd Emerson Scott won the Southwest Open Tennis tourney again for the eighth time since 1935. In all of those years, except 1945 (when he was not here) he has been winner or runner-up. Scott, who is National champion, Nebraska open champion and Los Angeles open champion, disposed of Theodore Roosevelt Lawson June 24 in easy fashion, 6-1, 6-1, 6-3. The C. W. Lewis protege will therefore have his name engraved on the C. W. Lewis Memorial trophy again. This trophy was bought by tennis fans in memory of the late father of tennis in the Southwest.

The largest number of top notch players in history participated in the tourney. San Antonio had nine entries, led by David Ells, Eluster Brown, the Collins brothers and Mr. and Mrs. B. O. Edwards. A. E. McMillan led the Houston group and H. E. Doyle the Austin players. Seven men flew down from Ohio. They were led by Captain Toppin and Major Campbell. Mrs. Mildred Brown and Mrs. Cleve Abbott led the out-of-State ladies. Buey and Austin came from Southern University. The Bailey Brothers and Adams came from Beaumont, and the Burton brothers from Hawkins, Texas.

Scott reached the finals by disposing of Edwards of San Antonio 6-2, 6-0; Bouey, 8-6, 6-2 and Austin 6-3, 6-0. In the other part of that bracket Childress defeated Harvey, 6-8, 7-5, 6-3; Austin defeated Brown, 5-7, 6-1, 6-3. Brown had defeated Doyle, 6-3, 6-2; Lawson eliminated Henley, 6-4, 6-3; Morris, 6-2, 6-4; Ellis, 6-0, 6-0, and Captain Toppin of the Italian campaign fame, 7-5, 6-1. Captain Toppin reached the semi-finals by taking G. L. Smith, 6-4, 6-2; McMillan, 6-3, 6-4, and Major William Campbell, 3-6, 7-5, 6-1.

The junior singles were justified when the entry list brought the greatest array of youngsters yet seen in these parts. The finals were a Beaumont affair, with cousin Harold Adams of the Neches Street YMCA battling it out with Joseph Bailey. To reach the finals Bailey disposed of G. L. Smith Jr., 6-0, 6-0, and Samuel Solomon, 6-3, 6-2. Harold Adams eliminated William Bailey 6-0, 6-0 and Alonzo Watson, 6-2, 6-0. Adams became the first Southwestern junior champion by defeating his cousin, Joseph Bailey 6-3, 7-5. The youngsters played an excellent brand of tennis. It is probable that Adams will go to the Nationals.

In the ladies singles, Mrs. Mildred Brown of Tuskegee, entered the finals by defeating her teammate, Mrs. Jessi (Clevee Abbott, 6-3, 6-0, and Miss Pansy Jones of Prairie View, 6-2, 6-2. Mrs. Agnes Lawson reached the finals by defeating Mrs. Viola Edwards, 7-5, 6-0 and Miss Willa Gant 6-0, 6-1.

Mrs. T. R. Lawson came out of retirement and won another championship by downing Mrs. Mildred Brown of Tuskegee, 7-5, 6-2 in a hotly contested match. Mrs. Brown played a superb brand of tennis all the way.

Mrs. Mildred Brown and Mrs. Cleve Abbott won the doubles by defeating Mrs. Agnes Lawson and Miss Pansy Jones, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. Mrs. Lawson and Miss Jones had previously defeated Miss M. Bratcher and Miss Willa Gant, 6-1, 6-4. Mrs. Abbott and Mrs. Brown had dropped Mrs. Novella Collins and Mrs. Veola Edwards, 6-1, 6-3.

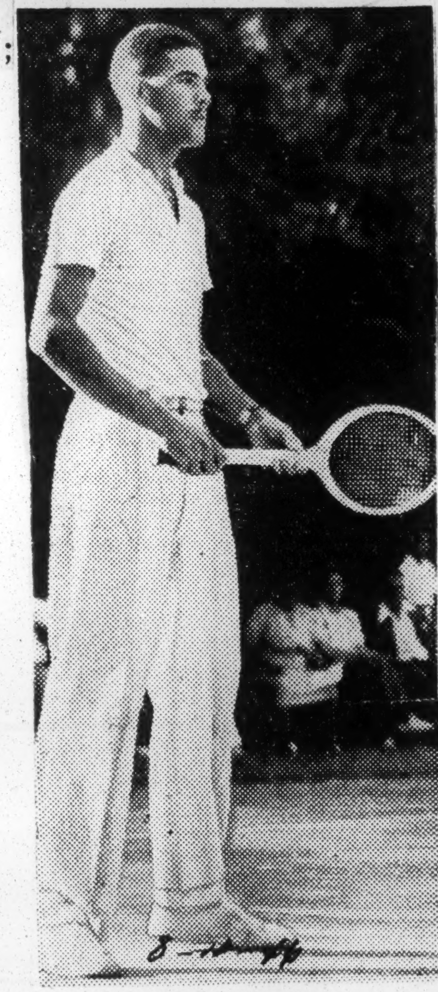
In the men's doubles, Bouey and Austin moved to the finals by defeating Morns and Collins, 6-0, 6-2 and Brown and Ellis, 6-4, 6-2. Morns and Collins had eliminated Brown and Jones, 6-2, 8-6. Evans and Handley defeated Edwards and Collins, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2. Brown and Ellis defeated Evans and Handley, 6-4, 6-2, and lost to Bouey and Austin. Then Scott and Lawson came out on top by defeating Bouey and Austin, 9-7, 3-6, 6-2.

In the junior doubles, Adams of Beaumont and Alonzo Watson of Prairie View took the crown by eliminating Bailey and Bailey, 6-2, 6-3. Bailey and Bailey had defeated Burton and Burton, 6-2, 6-3. Adams and Watson defeated Solomon and Hardeway, 11-9, 5-7, 6-2 in a thriller.

Cohen Adds Pennsylvania Net Crown to List of Wins

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-10-46

PHILADELPHIA — Richard (Dick) Cohen, who in the past three weeks has captured the Washington, D.C., and Eastern Sectional singles championships,



DICK COHEN

on Sunday added the Pennsylvania State open crown to his laurels.

Cohen annexed the crown by defeating Louis Graves of New York in the finals, 3-6, 7-5, 6-2.

In the semi-finals, Cohen conquered Robert Ryland, Chicago, 6-2, 1-6, 6-3, and Graves scored over Georfge Stewart, Panama, recent semi-finalist in the Philadelphia Public Parks championship, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.

Mrs. Lillian Van Buren, Detroit, the top seeded player, captured the women's championship by defeating Eoline Thornton, Los Angeles, 6-0, 6-3. In the semi-finals, Mrs. Van Buren scored over Eleese Thornton, Los Angeles, 6-3, 5-7, 6-3, and Eoline Thornton put out Levina Moore, Detroit, 6-4, 6-0.

Clyde Freeman, Washington, D.C., won the junior championship by defeating Robert W. Johnson, Lynchburg, Va., 8-6, 7-5.

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MEN'S SINGLES

QUARTER FINALS — Richard Cohen, Plainfield, N.J., deefated Ray Jackson, Plainfield, N.J., 7-5, 6-2.

SEMI-FINAL — Cohen defeated Robert Ryland, Chicago, 6-2, 1-6, 6-3; Lewis Graves, New York, defeated Georfge Stewart, Panama, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.

FINALS — Cohen defeated Graves, 3-6, 7-5, 6-2.

JUNIOR SINGLES

FINALS — Clyde Freeman, Washington, D.C., defeated Robert W. Johnson, Lynchburg, Va., 8-6, 7-5.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

QUARTER FINALS — Levinia Moore, Detroit, defeated Florence Barnes, Washington, D.C., 6-4, 6-3.

SEMI-FINALS — Mrs. Lillian Van Buren, Detroit, defeated Eleese Thornton, Los Angeles, 6-3, 5-7, 6-3; Eoline Thornton, Los Angeles, defeated Levinia Moore, 6-4, 6-0.

FINALS — Mrs. Van Buren defeated Eoline Thornton, 6-0, 6-3.

MISS PETERS WOMEN'S VICTOR

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-20-46

By A. M. RIVERA JR.

RALEIGH, N. C.—Wiry Nat Jackson, former National title holder, defeated Dick Cohen, 6-3, 4-6, 9-7, 6-4, to win his fifth North Carolina tennis championship last week at the Capitol Tennis Club's Open Championships, held on the campus of Shaw University.

Jackson won his shot at the North Carolina title, defeating Thomas Johns of Portsmouth, Va., 6-1, 6-0, 6-0, after Cohen eliminated Maurice "Flip" Jackson of Washington, D. C., 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

With a fine assortment of shots, Jackson won the applause of the crowd by hitting the corners alternately with beautiful length and keeping Cohen running a marathon along the base line. In spots, Cohen displayed brilliance and power but lacked his usual accuracy and stamina to cope with Jacksons rally.

Miss Roumania Peters, Tuskegee, last year's National Women's Single runner-up, defeated Mrs. Cleve Abbott, also of Tuskegee, in straight sets, 6-2, 6-1.

Dr. Hubert Eaton of Wilmington, N. C., and Nat Jackson had little difficulty defeating Dick Cohen and Flip Jackson, 6-3, 6-4, in men's doubles in a match agreed, prior to play, would go to the winner of two out of three sets because of darkness.

Flip Jackson and Peters eliminated Dr. R. W. "Whirlwind" Johnson and Mrs. Abbott, 6-2, 6-4.

Intercollegiate Net Play Tied in With Nationals

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-10-46

WILBERFORCE, Ohio — The fourteenth national inter-collegiate tennis tournament will be held at Wilberforce University during the National Championships, Aug. 18-24.

Despite the severe setback due to the war, tennis is still in the ascendency in our colleges, with the major sectional tournaments staging a real comeback.

The Southwestern was won by Edward Bouey of Southern U. Jack Points won the Mid-Western at Wilberforce. The SIAC at Tuskegee was the best in years although rain caused postponement of the finals. These were eventually completed at Southern. The CIAA held its 1946 championships at Lincoln University (Pa.) and were also highly successful.

One of the finest young players developed in recent years was Francis Powell of Tuskegee, who won the SIAA in 1945, but did not compete during the current season. Delbert Russell, formerly of Smith, and Robert Ryland of Xavier, were the first to enter the white National Inter-Collegiates (1945).

Both did well, especially the latter.

This year will witness the elimination and championship contests between representatives of the major inter-collegiate associations namely: The South-Western, SIAA, the CIAA, and the Mid-Western.

In this Corner

Daily Worker New York

A Question and Answer re AAU Jimcrow Issue

Bill Mardo

1-28-46

A reader asks whether or not we support Stanley Woodward's proposed counter-AAU meet at Randall's Island. He insists it's a mistake to withhold immediate all-out support, because such a position weakens the only effective protest against the AAU's summer championships scheduled to be held in the Jimcrow South.

Last week we expressed our opinions thusly: We are irrevocably oppsed to the AAU Texas games if they are to be held under Jimcrow conditions. We can't see that the fight against racism would be furthered if seven great Negro track champs had to accept the South's Hitler-like humiliations for the privilege of defending their titles. We can't see that the fight against the AAU's reactionary and hypocritical grip on amateur sports in America would be aided by unconditionally accepting their Texas site and all that it implies for the Negro runners involved.

We urged that a mass campaign be developed to be directed toward the AAU officials—demanding they take a stand, one way or another, on this question. Is the AAU willing to fight for the rights of the Negro champs if they went South? Is the AAU prepared to demand non-Jimcrow train, hotel and restaurant accommodations for the Negro stars?

Or will the AAU guarantee nothing?

This, we declared last week, had to be determined before giving all-out support to Stanley Woodward's northern project.

Well, now a reader come forward with the belief that such a stand only hinders the development of Woodward's anti-Jimcrow track meet. Does it, though? Let's probe a little deeper into this issue and all that it involves.

1-28-46

Which would be more preferable: A meet in the North or one in the South under democratic conditions? We believe that if the AAU can be pressured into taking a positive stand in favor of the Negro stars—then the Texas games would be far more valuable and educational than any five track meets in the North. Why?

Because Negroes and whites have been competing equally in the North for so long that it no longer means anything to the average, democratic sports fan in this section of the country. Negro champs have been acclaimed by white fans in almost every field of sports. But this great lesson has yet to be learned by the citizens of the South. For them, the opportunity to view Negro-white athletic competition on an equal basis would go further toward driving the Bilbos and Ku Kluxers from American life, than anything else. The phony white supremacy myth that the average southerner has been weaned on, would explode with a bang on the outdoor cinder paths of San Antonio, Texas.

That's why there's no questioning, in my mind anyway, the comparative value of a track meet in the South—**under democratic conditions**—than one to be held in Randall's Island. But to get the AAU to take an anti-Jimcrow stand is quite a trick. It requires the most militant sort of letter-telegram-delegation campaign against the AAU. Many southerners would unquestionably support such an anti-Jimcrow campaign, too.

Such a campaign should be directed immediately. Write, wire, phone or visit Dan Ferris, secretary-treasurer, National AAU, 233 Broadway, New York City. The phone number is CO. 7-6877.

The objective should be to get a commitment from the AAU within a short period of time. If none is forthcoming—then all-out support to the Randall's Island games.

How do you feel about it, readers?

AAU Meet

Fur Workers Join Dan Burley Drive For Negro Stars

Amsterdam News New York

One of the most powerful, strategic and important of the left-wing CIO unions has joined Dan Burley's program urging Negro athletes to participate in the National AAU outdoor track and field championships at San Antonio, Texas, this June. Thus, added weight is found in the growing sentiment among clear-thinking organizations and individuals that the way to fight Jim Crow is to attack it at its source. The procession is getting bigger daily as militant campaigners against un-Americanism see a golden opportunity to strike a blow for democracy at the strong hold of the enemy.

2-16-46

The Union, Local 125 of the Fur Floor and Shipping Clerks', International Fur and Leather Workers Union of the U. S. A. and Canada, CIO, in okaying the San Antonio meet, demanded that the National AAU guarantee that there will be no Jim Crow.

In Favor of Texas

"We believe that the only effective means of combatting discrimination is to strike at its heart," the union said in a statement last week. "We are in favor of the meet being held in San Antonio, but we demand that the AAU guarantee that there will be no Jim Crow. We also feel that it is the responsibility of the AAU to insure this. We are urging other trade unions to take similar action."

The local, of which Leon Straus is manager; Max Bronsnick, acting manager, and Thomas Jasper, assistant manager, sent the following letter to Dan Ferris, secretary-treasurer of the National AAU, 333 Broadway, New York City:

Letter To Ferris

Dear Mr. Ferris:

In the name of 2,000 members of Local 125, the board of directors, at its meeting held on January 29th, went on record urging you to use your office in assuring that there will be no discrimination practiced against the Negro athletes who will participate in the coming track meet to be held in Texas.

Negro athletes have distinguished themselves in every phase of American sports. They are an integral part of our American life. In the war of liberation, just recently ended, they have earned with their heroism, service and lives, the undying gratitude of all the American people.

2-16-46

Same Considerations

Negro athletes, who are the best in their respective fields, must receive the same considerations as white athletes. Athletics teach sportsmanship and competition in the spirit of honesty and fair play. There can be no room for shameful, un-American discrimination against any minority group.

We urge you to insure complete equality for all the athletes who will participate in the coming Texas meet.

Sincerely yours,
Herbert Kurzer,
Manager.

LOOKING 'EM OVER

Afro-American

With SAM LACY

There has been much talk on the subject of the National AAU track and field championships, which are to be held in San Antonio, Tex., next summer, the talk concerning itself chiefly with whether or not colored athletes should compete in the games.

One school of thought holds that the colored cinder stars, champions and all, should boycott the meet on the grounds that they can expect a stomach full of headaches in San Antonio, San Antonio being in Texas, Texas being in the South and the South being what it is.

The other school contends that our colored athletes should make the trip and, by so doing, carry a form of education in racial understanding right into the home of American fascism.

This latter group argues that a great gain will be made for harmony between the two races if whites there for the first time see colored fellows in competition with all athletes. It asserts further that nothing will do Texans more good than to witness the friendly rivalry that exists in AAU games, and to see colored boys defeating white boys in fair competition.

A lot of tommyrot, I call it. Nothing incenses a Southerner more than the realization that a colored man is the white man's superior in any given task or field.

There are those who would compare the colored athlete's trip to Texas with Jesse Owens's trek to Hitler's Germany for the 1936 Olympics. My good friend, Dan Burley of the Amsterdam News, is one of these.

Didn't Boycott Berlin

He says, "Owens and other colored stars didn't boycott the 1936 Olympics because of Hitler. They went to Berlin and knocked the Aryan supremacy myth of the Nazis into a cocked hat."

I say that's not true. I say the Nazis' super-race myth was knocked into a cocked hat some eight years later by guns and tanks and airplanes and marching men, and not by the winning of a 100-meter footrace by Jesse Owens nor by a display of greater stamina by Johnny Woodruff.

I say further, that back in 1936, Hitler was little more than a voice in the wilderness, like the coyete whose howling in the night is annoying but hardly alarming.

Hitler, instead of being "educated," was enraged. His will to exterminate those who challenged his claims became all the more deeply rooted.

Burley wouldn't have advocated a trip to Berlin in 1941, when anti-racialism was at its height. And Berlin, in 1941, was no worse from a colored man's viewpoint than Texas is, and has been, since time began for these United States.

The case of Jackie Robinson is also different. He goes to Daytona Beach, Fla., in another few weeks to try out for a berth in organized baseball, the first colored man ever to be granted such a chance. And those who encourage full participation in the Texas track meet draw upon him as an example of what the race wants.

The point is made that Robinson will be the bull's-eye of many Southern darts, but that he has announced a determination to stick it out to the last. Jackie, it is asserted, will be fighting a greater battle alone for a period of from two to three weeks, than would the seven colored track champions, whose stay in the South would be for not more than two or three days.

Jackie goes into the South with no alternative. Baseball teams train in Florida and in other States of warm climates because they cannot get such an early start in the North. If Branch Rickey could set up a training camp for his Montreal Royals in a more democratic environment, I'd be clamoring for him to abandon Daytona Beach, and so would the rest of us.

The AAU can find hundreds of cities in the North and West that would be more acceptable than anything the South has to offer.

They Know the Score

Another thing that must be said relative to the case of Robinson is this: Jackie is out to prove that a colored youth can make the grade in organized baseball. No matter how much we argue that colored men can do it, they've never had the opportunity to prove us right.

We have nothing to prove to the South in connection with track. They know the score. For notwithstanding our opinions as to their ignorance, it has never been denied that a Texan can read. And, judging from the way its press "plays down" the news of colored sports triumphs, they don't even like to read it.

If they don't enjoy reading it, there's nothing on earth that'll convince me they want to see it.

The On-to-Texas contingent sets up the slogan, "You Can't Win Fights by Running Away." My contention is that you seldom win fights you go looking for.

If the thousands of young colored men who were sent into the South, wearing American Army, Navy and Marine uniforms, were unable to convert the fascist mind, I fail to see what we can expect of a handful of audacious athletes. Those young soldiers and sailors were the symbols of patriotism and brotherhood, but was the South reformed?

The Texas Story, Cont'd

I have had some very fine response to the recent dissertation in this space about the body politic of the Amateur Athletic Union of America—the AAU, to you—and how, with a fine disregard for seven Negro boys who hold national titles in their ranks, they have hit upon San Antonio, Texas, as the site for the national track and field championships next June.

There are some among us—notably Stanley Woodwar, Al Buck and myself—who think the championships in Texas are misplaced because of the simple fact that there'll be those seven Negroes competing to defend their titles. After all, Texas is still jimcrow.

But many of the letters I have received disagree with the thought we suggest of running a rival track and field meet at Randall's Island the same time the championships are being decided in Texas.

It was my thought that the Negro boys should not be subjected to the indignities they're bound to face when they get south of the Mason-Dixon line and I wondered if any good possibly could come of their willingness to show, for example, their ability to take it and lift the morale of the millions of their race who are forever doomed to live out their span in the Uncle Tom south.

I have had dissenting voices from men whose opinions I respect and I wonder if boycotting the meet—the seven stars, for example, running in our proposed opposition meet—would work good or bad in the long run.

I hit on the thought that Jesse Owens did a fine job when he defied Hitler's creed and competed to a fare-thee-well in the '36 Olympics but I dropped into a trap when I said he was a Negro with lots of courage. That he had, of course, but what he was in Berlin wasn't so much a Negro but definitely a citizen of the United States and he went over there under the solid protection of the U. S. flag and at that time, Hitler wasn't courting trouble with us.

Maybe it would be wrong for the seven Negroes to hang back and duck the indignities of the South but I still think the most could be accomplished if they did it that way, defying the tight-minded, bigoted members of the AAU—and the South—and running to new records right here in New York where bigotry is no dead issue but, still, where a man whose skin is not white isn't shoved around like a pig.

Within the next few days I will fill you in on some of the fine answers I have had to my appeal for a show of hands. How straight-thinking readers feel it's bad for the boys to stay out of the south and from others, how it would be worse if they went.

The issue is a very real one, whether you think so or not and I don't think that time should be wasted getting the whole picture straightened out.

In my book it's a question of common decency and human relations and I guess (as they say down Texas 'way) I wouldn't understand those things, having been born in the so-called wrong part of the country.

I dunno. It's a very real situation and I'm minded of the time that Brud Holland spoke extemporaneously at one of the football luncheons at Shor's Place. Holland, you know, was an All-America end at Cornell. And he was a Negro. He said he had a guy playing end for him who was really good. Holland, of course, was coaching a colored club. And he added: "But this fellow's a great football player. He's white too—but a real nice guy." Holland, of course, had his tongue in his cheek and nobody missed the connotation. That's why I don't want the AAU to miss what we're shooting at in Texas.

—Joe Cummiskey

'NO BIAS,' DAN FERRIS ASSURES COURIER

Head of National AAU Says Negro Athletes Will Be "Well Taken Care Of" in San Antonio Next June

NEW YORK CITY — Dan Ferris, head of the National Amateur Athletic Union, told The Pittsburgh Courier Monday that the AAU branch in San Antonio, Texas, has assured the national office that Negro contestants will be treated fairly when they compete in the National championship meet there June 28 and 29.

Considerable criticism has been heaped upon the AAU for awarding the Nationals to San Antonio due to the fact that many of its champions are Negroes and will be subjected to undue hardships while competing in the Southern city.

Last week Joseph J. Yancey, coach-director of the Pioneer Club, nationally famous organization, which includes white and colored athletes on its star-studded roster, declared that he will not send a team to San Antonio, chiefly because of racial segregation and discrimination in San Antonio and other sections of the South.

Yancey said he had discussed the question with several of his champions, including Eulace Peacock and Herbert Douglas, David Albritton, all champions, and other outstanding Negro track stars, have the same attitude. Without these contestants, the Nationals would lack much of their lustre and color.

In discussing the issue with The Courier, Ferris said: "At the time the meet was awarded to San Antonio I was not conscious of the jim-crow railroad accommodations in the South. However, we will make an effort to send our Negro contestants South in a special railroad car. We have been assured by our branch in San Antonio that Negro athletes will be given the best possible accommodations in homes of prominent Negroes there."

If the meet goes through as scheduled, it will be the first National track championship held in the South since the 1914 games at Baltimore. The 1927 championships were awarded to New Orleans but shifted to Lincoln, Neb., when New Orleans ruled that Negro athletes could not compete.

Ferris said that none of the Negro contestants were "embarrassed" when the Pan-American games were held in Dallas, Texas, a few years ago.

"Everything went along fine at that time," the AAU bigwig declared, "and I am sure we won't encounter any difficulties this time. If we find out that our Negro athletes are to be discriminated against we'll cancel the meet. I think we can teach people down there a real lesson. We can show them that people can get along all right when they see Negro and white athletes competing together and against each other on the same field. This, I believe, is a wonderful chance to teach a little democracy on the field of sports."

Ferris admitted, however, that Negro contestants from the North would be competing under certain handicaps if they were confined to private homes instead of hotels. The Courier pointed out, for instance, there is no assurance that Negro contestants will live under conditions suitable for athletes. The matter of food, sleeping accommodations and other important items would be left to individuals not familiar with the needs of highly trained athletes. Despite the fact that the people quartering the athletes will have their interests at heart, the fact remains that they will not be able to provide the same desirable accommodations white athletes, who will be living and sleeping together, receive in the hotels in San Antonio. The hotels there will be geared to handle these "fragile" packages of athletic perfection.

It was also pointed out that Negro spectators will be segregated, many of whom will be related or intimate friends of the contestants.

In This Corner

Much Work Still to Be Done re Texas AAU Games

— Bill Mardo —

It's been quietly rumored for some time now that **Herald Tribune** sports editor Stanley Woodward has shelved his Randall's Island track meet because the athletes themselves haven't supported the idea.

This contention was practically clinched yesterday when Eric Pohl, head of the South Texas AAU, told a press conference here that most of the Negro track stars involved have already decided to attend the national championships at San Antonio in June. Negro stars who will compete in the Texas meet, include: Eddie Conwell, Barney Ewell, Elmore Harris, Herb McKenley, Jimmy Herbert, Ed Dugger, Ed Taylor, and Dave Allbritton.

The Texas AAU prexy declared that attempts are being made to have both Negro and white athletes transported in a non-Jimcrow Pullman for the train swing south of St. Louis. Whether such a step, which would represent a great victory over Jimcrow, actually comes to pass will depend in the main upon how much consistent pressure progressives can concentrate against the AAU.

Mr. Pohl, however, was being rather naive about the amount of influence the AAU will have in Texas. For example, he insisted that the Negro athletes will be housed and fed in the homes of Negro families living in San Antonio. When pressed as to whether the Negro stars would be permitted to bunk in non-Jimcrow hotels or eat in non-segregated restaurants, Mr. Pohl again stressed that the Negroes in San Antonio are anxious to take care of that problem themselves, as indicated above. Which is so much malarkey and an attempt on the part of Pohl to minimize his own responsibility.

Another sour note is the fact that the meet will be held before a segregated audience in the Alamo Stadium which seats some 24,000 Pohl declared half of the stadium's facilities would be turned over to Negro fans, and the other half to whites. This Jimcrow feature of the meet can also be eradicated, in my belief, if the progressive movement wages a full-scale campaign on this issue. The fact that the AAU had to take a positive stand in regard to the transportation problem, bears this out.

We'll have more to say on this later. But the big point to remember is: For the first time in the history of Texas, Negroes and whites will be competing equally on the athletic field. This in itself constitutes a real step forward. Continued mass pressure can gain many more victories over Jimcrow before the AAU truck meet actually gets underway.

Hats Off!

Stanley Woodward, Herald Trib-une sports editor, *is receiving backing from other columnists for his proposal that a national championship track meet be held at Randall's Island next Summer to compete with the Jim Crow event which the National AAU has scheduled for San Antonio. The AAU has promised that Negro athletes—who now hold seven national titles—will be permitted to compete. The catch is that they will have to ride in Jim Crow railway cars, eat in Jim Crow restaurants and sleep in Jim Crow hotels (if any). Rather than humiliate themselves, outstanding Negro athletes have announced that they won't go to San Antonio. To them and to Woodward, for his suggestion:*

Hats Off!

SEES NEGROES IN MEET

Official Says They Will Be in San Antonio A. A. U. Games

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 20 (AP)—Negro stars will compete in the National A.A.U. track and field meet here June 28 and 29, Elic Pohl of the organization's executive committee said today in denying reports there would be a rival meet in the East.

Pohl, who attended the recent A.A.U. indoor meet in New York, said "most of the athletes up there scoffed at the idea of a rival meet. There just wouldn't be any Negro stars to compete in such a meet."

Pohl added that h eexpects 800 to 900 athletes to compete in the meet, which will be held at the Alamo Stadium, which seats 23,000. It will be the second time the games have been held South of the Mason-Dixou Line. The first time was at New Orleans.

63i 1946 AAU, San Antonio, Texas

In this corner

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. 2-6-46

Eugene Gordon Comments On Texas AAU Games

Bill Mardo

Daily Worker colleague Eugene Gordon has come in with some comment on why he, as a Negro, thinks it wiser to fight for a democratically-held AAU track meet in the South than to support a protest-meet on Randall's Island, as proposed by Stanley Woodward of the Herald Tribune.

And now, suppose we just reprint in full Gene Gordon's opinion on this very vital issue:

By EUGENE GORDON

Stanley Woodward, sports editor of the Herald Tribune, should be commended for good intentions in proposing a trach meet in the North to counter the one which the AAU is holding at San Antonio. Good intentions, however, fall short sometimes of good deeds.

What is it that the reactionary southerner most wishes in the coming AAU meet? What would most please such Texans as Martin Dies and Tom Connally? Dies, of the notorious pro-fascist Dies Committee, and Connally, equally notorious among Negroes for filibustering with Theodore Bilbo in 1942 against the anti-lynching bill, would like nothing better than to have all Negro athletes abstain from competing in the South.

That is what these fascist-loving demagogues fight for. They believe in Jimcrow sports as they believe in Jimcrow towns and Jimcrow jobs. They believe that equality in competition between Negro and white athletes is "social equality." They would not only be happy if Negroes resolved not to compete, but they would look upon it as a triumph for their own white supremacy doctrine.

Certain Negro newspapers for years have shouted at Negroes of the Deep South to leave for the relatively freer North. That sort of preachment used to cause considerable confusion among people who had thought the best place to fight and defeat the enemy was on his own grounds. Negroes who have homes in the South and generations of proud family history there, cannot imagine leaving solely on the grounds that conditions are difficult.

What right, moreover, have we in the North to leave our brothers in the South to the tender mercies of OUR COMMON ENEMY? We seem to be saying, in effect: It's all right for you to live and fight and die in the Deep South, but as for me—I'm not coming there even to prove in an athletic contest that I'm as good a man as is the white man.

2-6-46

The Negro and the white common people, even in Texas, are doing things which prove that the common people are the best people and that they are not going to permit such scum as Dies, Connally, Bilbo and Rankin to win by default.

Woodward would be rendering progress better service, in my opinion, if he fought to abolish discrimination in the treatment of Negro athletes in the South rather than fighting for a northern meet. The line being followed by supporters of Woodward's position would, if followed to its logical conclusion, lead to our refusal to participate in most phases of American life. Where is it that Negroes are NOT discriminated against in the United States?

The Negro did not win his reputation as a splendid anti-fascist fighter by refraining from fighting in a Jimcrow army. He won it in spite of the Jimcrow army, all the time struggling against Jimcrow in the army. We must compete in Texas and elsewhere in the South while at the same time fighting its vicious racist system.

Competing with and defeating white athletes on the sports field will win the Negro athletes friends among southerners who previously had fallen for the super-race propaganda. Young southerners who saw our Negro soldiers in action know already that the South has been nurtured on lies. The Texas meet would complete the lesson so splendidly begun in Italy, in France and in the South Pacific.

On to San Antonio! On to victory over racism!

In this corner

Should Negro Runners Enter Texas AAU Games?

Bill Mardo

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. 1-16-46

It's important to note the various differences of opinion which have cropped up since Herald Tribune sports editor Stanley Woodward made his original proposal to fight against the AAU championship games scheduled to be held this summer in San Antonio, Texas. Prominent Negro track stars who, of course, are directly involved in this whole business, aren't unanimously in favor of either the AAU meet or Woodward's Randall Island races.

Eddie Conwell, the 1944 60-meter champ, has declared: "Negroes will never solve race prejudice by running away from it. I don't like to go South under present conditions, but I am going because I believe that the more often we go the quicker we will help to break down undemocratic barriers."

Elmore Harris, current 600 and 200 meter indoor champ, said: "I may be wrong, but I am laboring under the hunch that southern athletes like Charlie Parker of Texas, and many others whom I have met, are going to help Negroes to attain a more favorable footing in the South. The more we mix with them the more friends we will win among them. I am willing to gamble on this hunch and I am willing to undergo humiliation this time if it will help my southern friends to see more clearly the injustice of it all."

Opposing the idea of participating in the AAU meet in the Jimcrow South are the famous Negro stars Herbert Thompson, former indoor 60-meter and 60-yard champ; Jimmie Herbert, one-time 600-meter king who now runs in the 1,000, and Joseph Yancey, famous coach of the Negro-white Pioneer Club.

Herbert definitely declared: "I wouldn't compete in Texas under any conditions. I will gladly take part in any open meet staged in the North if I am in condition."

Herb Thompson minced no words by saying: "Any Negro athlete who goes South to compete under Jimcrow conditions is crazy. I have talked with Eulace Peacock and John Woodruff and they feel as I do. We will take part in any open meet anywhere in the North as long as it is run in opposition to the southern meet."

And coach Joe Yancey felt that the AAU meet should be staged in a city "where everybody is welcome."

Dan Burley, managing and sports editor of the reactionary New York Amsterdam News, has just come out with a long article reversing his earlier position and now favoring the idea of Negro champs making the trip South no matter what. "You don't win fights running away," wrote Burley, as he traced a long line of Negro athletes who became immortals in their respective fields despite suffering Jimcrow indignities along the way.

I'm very much afraid that I can't go along with Dan Burley's argument. Sure you don't win fights running away—but neither do you win them by yielding to Jimcrow. Certainly there's no argument against Negroes participating with southern athletes—or in southern cities—providing that the Negro stars don't have to take ten steps backward in their fight for democracy by submitting to all the Hitler-like traditions of the South.

Henry Armstrong, former three-title boxing king, set what I consider to be a wonderful guide whenever such issues as this crop up before Negro athletes and the sports world in general. Seven years ago Armstrong was signed to fight some fellow in St. Louis. Henry agreed to the bout on one condition: that the best seats in the St. Louis fight arena also be put on sale for the Negro fans as well as white. He refused to fight in a Jimcrow club. As you all know, Armstrong got the match on his terms—and he ended Jimcrow in that fight arena once and for all.

Sure, Henry Armstrong was all for showing his talents to a southern audience, sure he was all for helping to prove in action that Negro athletes weren't "inferior" to whites—but so did he demand of the management that it show a little democracy on its side of the fence.

The vast democratic-loving sports world, the trade unions and all progressive organizations must now pressure the AAU just as Henry Armstrong did that St. Louis fight club. A deluge of protest must be directed against the AAU's "guarantee-nothing" policy. It must be demanded that the AAU take a public stand on these questions:

Is the AAU willing to fight for complete equality of the Negro stars on their trip South and during their stay in Texas? Is the AAU willing to fight against the Negro champs being Jimcrowed on the train? Is it ready to fight against Jimcrow hotel and restaurant accommodations? Is it willing to guarantee there will be no "incidents" in Texas that will further the cause of brother Bilbo and the Ku Kluxers?

An answer must be forthcoming from the AAU before its championship meet in Texas can be supported.

2,000 Urge AAU to Guarantee No Jimcrow At Texas Track Meet

Daily Worker New York 2-8-46

Some 2,000 CIO members of the Fur Floor and Shipping Clerks' Union, Local 125, yesterday urged the National AAU to "insure complete equality for all the athletes who will participate in the coming Texas meet."

The Fur Floor Boys announced its support of the AAU track and field championships scheduled to be held in San Antonio, Texas—but demanded that the AAU guarantee there will be no discrimination against the Negro stars who will participate in the meet.

Here is the text of the letter which the 2,000 unionists sent yesterday to Mr. Ferris:

2-8-46

"In the name of 2,000 members of Local 125, the Board of Directors, at its meeting on Jan. 29, went on record urging you to use your office in assuring that

there will be no discrimination practiced against the Negro athletes who will participate in the coming track meet to be held in Texas.

"Negro athletes have distinguished themselves in every phase of American sports.

"Negro athletes . . . must receive the same consideration as white athletes. Athletics teach sportsmanship and competition in the spirit of honesty and fair play. There can be no room for shameful, un-American discrimination against any minority group. 2-8-46

"We urge you to insure complete equality for all the athletes who will participate in the coming Texas meet."

—Cummiskey—

Stars Over Texas, Cont'd

P.M. 1-16-46

I have at hand three communications which put the spotlight back on the National AAU's decision to hold its track and field championships, in which Negroes now hold seven titles, in jimcrow San Antonio in June.

In the first, Dan Burley, sports ed of the *Amsterdam News*, has come out in favor of all Negro athletes participating in the annual championships in Texas. N.Y. N.Y.

He cites these reasons: (A) Jesse Owens and other Negro stars didn't boycott the '36 Olympics because of Hitler. They went to Berlin and knocked the Aryan supremacy myth of the Nazis into a cocked hat. (B) Great gain may be made for fuller understanding and harmony in the South if whites there see Negroes in competition with all athletes. (C) Jackie Robinson, first Negro candidate in organized baseball, already has accepted the segregated pattern of Daytona Beach, Fla., where the Montreal team (Dodger farm) trains this Spring. He says he will be fighting a greater fight than the Negro AAU track and field champs who will be in Texas less than a week. (D) Burley outlines the history of the Negro in sports, points out "You don't win fights running away."

A second letter, from Lou Blackmon, writing in the *Newark Telegram*, Negro weekly, says much the same thing, puts it on the "show must go on" basis. He thinks thousands of the Negro race, now imprisoned in Dixie, will be inspired by the Negro athletes from the North who would go South and suffer the indignities of jimcrowism.

The third, also from a Negro, says in part:

"I know I speak for hundreds of Negro athletes when I say no form of national athletic championship can be appreciated by a Negro if it's held in the South.

"I happened to be one of a small number of Negroes trained as a navigator at Hondo, 40 miles west of San Antonio. Naturally, on weekends, it was our sordid pleasure to travel to San Antonio. Five months visitation to this historical city proved many things:

¶ Negro hotels are of the lowest caliber, Negro athletes, I'm sure, would be almost coerced to stay in private homes. New York, N.Y.

¶ There are no Negro restaurants of any "class."

¶ Facilities for amusement and pleasure are limited to one colored night club and one small repulsive show, and in general—nothing!

"If any Negroes were to travel South and forced to accept segregated and discriminating practices, it would be a severe blow to their pride, sense of sportsmanship, and belief in America. I sincerely hope Stanley Woodward's (and your) plans to run an opposition meet at Randalls Island that week will materialize. I for one would like to compete and I'll see that other track athletes from this area (Hartford, Conn.) will attend in numbers." The letter is signed by Charles S. Stone, Jr. 1-16-46

There's much more still to be said about all this, especially on the grounds of human decency, where it should be thought out anyway. Whether the AAU bludgeon of barring all athletes from competition for life if they jump to an unsanctioned (by AAU) meet will ruin the plan to spurn Texas isn't yet known. If so, in my book, then it would be time for Negro athletes to subject themselves to jimcrow tactics and try to prove how awful it is. But more on that later. Let's hear from you. —JOE CUMMISKEY.

RACE ATHLETES THUMBS DOWN ON AAU MEET DOWN IN DIXIE

The Plaindealer Kansas City, Mo.

New York.—Joseph J. Yancey, coach and director of the mixed Pioneer Club track and field team, said here last week that colored athletes will probably miss the national AAU cinder championships, slated for San Antonio, Texas, this summer. 1-18-46

He said his club will not send a team to the Texas games chiefly because accommodations en route are "undesirable."

Yancey has discussed the question of the national championships with Herbert Thompson and Eulace Peacock, and they say they will not enter the nationals, if they qualify. Yancey believes their sentiment and his own would be confirmed by all colored athletes who currently hold national titles, including Barney Ewell, Elmore Harris, Herbert McKenley, Bob Kelley, Herbert Douglas, David Albritton and Joshua Williamson. These athletes, by A. A. U. policy, are guaranteed full expenses for the defense of their titles.

If the meet goes through as scheduled, it will be the first national track championship held in the South since the 1914 games at Baltimore. Secretary Dan Ferris recalls one incident there. A Virginia hurdler refused to compete against Irving Howe, colored hurdler of the Irish-American A.C., and the late James E. Sullivan told the Virginian he had the privilege of withdrawing from the race.

The 1910 games were held at New Orleans without colored participants. The 1907 meet was held in Jamestown, Va. John B. Taylor, noted colored quarter-miler, was a winner. The 1927 championships were awarded to New Orleans but shifted to Lincoln, Neb., the last week when New Orleans casually remarked that colored athletes would not be allowed to compete. 1-18-46

Ferries's comment on Yancey's views was that "it might be a good thing for Southerners to see how white and colored athletes get along in competition. I thought through accommodations on trains are not affected by jim crow regulations.

Jim Crowism And the AAU

P.M.

Dear Editor: 2-6-46

Millions of thanks for bringing the AAU track meet question before the bar of public opinion. Here is a word anent the San Antonio meet . . .

The Negro whose soul has been seared by long time exposure to the hatreds of Dixie will be at home in Texas. On the other hand, the boy who has not completely surrendered to the inferiority complex may find himself hating God and man after he gets to Texas. It may, however, serve to send enough adrenalin into his sinews to make him outrun, outthrow, and outjump the best athlete there. It is always hard to say what the environment of Jim Crowism may do.

E. D. HENDERSON,
Public Schools Department Head
Washington, D. C. P.M.

° ° °

In reply to those who naively assert that if the Negro athletes go down South and make a good showing—as they probably would make—the Southern white man's racial theories will be exploded, I would like to recall the fact that the majority of America's colored people do and have always lived in the South, and that subsequently many of the most important contributions made to America by colored people have been made by these Southern Negroes.

If the historical impact of these facts has not convinced the Southern white, it is futile to expect the visit of a handful of Negro athletes to bring results.

Even if the Negro athletes perform exceptionally well, it would only increase the Jim Crow advocates' neurotic hostility, rather than reduce it. This observation is clinically correct. . .

LT. WILLIAM COUCH, JR.
New York Wednesday

I feel that nothing will be gained by a subtle concerted effort to discourage Negro participation in the AAU Texas meet.

Certainly there is a deep feeling in realizing the difficulties under which Negro athletes who choose to compete will find themselves. It is truer, however, that sometimes proof of ability or equality is better displayed by rising to or above the question. Possibly participation of the athletes may further impress folks in the Texas locale of their narrow thinking and stupidity. . . CARRIE MILLER,
California Eagle,
New York *Amsterdam News*

2-6-46

You must admit that the AAU holds the heavier artillery in a showdown. You know they can bar athletes competing in an unauthorized meet, and they have a lock on the transportation and expense clauses. I agree that the pompous AAU needs a good swift kick, and if you think you can do it, more power to you.

However, you have already made a point by having the case publicized widely and causing Brundage and Co. to blush a deep red. . .

New York, N.Y.

Mattapan, Mass. ELI J. SCHLEIFER

We believe that Negro athletes should not participate in the AAU meet at San Antonio unless they are guaranteed every privilege and are accorded equal treatment with their white confreres.

Certainly if your friend invited you to his home to play poker or pinochle with some visiting firemen, you wouldn't expect him to play with his elite friends in the parlor and shuffle you up in the attic or the basement to match wits against some of his second-rate cronies.

JOCKO MAXWELL,
Sportscaster, Station WWRL
Woodside, N. Y.

° ° °

I think there is far more basis for believing that participation by Negro athletes under the conditions to which they would be subjected would result in an intensification, rather than a modification, of anti-Negro feeling. It is a psychologically sound speculation, I think, that white Southerners would find a tremendous satisfaction (and a corresponding intensification of feeling) at the thought that, no matter how the Negroes might excel some of their white competitors on the track, they were still subject to all of the inferiority paraphernalia of the community. In other words, they would be serving as an object lesson on behalf of prejudiced whites that, regardless of how good you are, you are still a Negro and to be treated as such!

So here's wishing success to a *democratic* track meet that can serve a *democratic* purpose!

JOHN A. MORSELL
New York New York, N.Y.

I happen to be one of the small number of Negroes that were trained as navigators at Hondo, 40 miles west of San Antonio. Five months' visitation to this city proved the following: P.M.

¶ Negro hotels in San Antonio are of the lowest caliber.

¶ There are no Negro restaurants of any "class."

¶ Facilities for amusement and pleasure are limited to one colored night club and one small repulsive show—that's all.

CHARLES S. STONE, JR.
Hartford, Conn.

° ° °

I agree that "you don't win fights by running away." That is why I am not in favor of Negro athletes participating in the Texas meet, for by so doing they will be *ignoring* the undemocratic treatment to which they and the Negro track fans will surely be subjected . . .

Detroit ARTHUR N. HAMILTON

City CIO's 600,000 Urge AAU Guarantee No Jimcrow at Texas Meet

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Thur. 2.28.46

Representing 600,000 unionists, the Greater New York CIO Council yesterday passed a resolution urging the officials of the Amateur Athletic Union to "insure complete democratic treatment" for the Negro track stars who will participate in the national AAU championships at Texas this June.

This action followed a similar move launched earlier this month by 2,000 CIO members of Fur Floor and Shipping Clerks Union, Local 125. At that time, Local 125 also initiated a letter-postcard campaign directed to Dan Ferris, secretary-treasurer of the National AAU, demanding the AAU guarantee no Jimcrowing of the Negro runners during their trip and stay at San Antonio, Texas.

Here is the complete text of the resolution passed yesterday by the Greater New York CIO Council:

"Whereas, the Amateur Athletic Union's nationwide track meet scheduled for San Antonio, Texas, this coming June will subject Negro participants to Jimcrow conditions unless AAU officers take steps to insure complete democratic treatment of all the athletes; and

"Whereas, the AAU is an organization that fosters wide amateur sports events based on the principles of sportsmanship, competitive spirit and fair play; and

Thur. 2.28-46

"Whereas, the Negro people have distinguished themselves not only in such fields as sports, but in literature, industry, science, etc., and particularly of our country's war efforts, and must be guaranteed their rights to equality;

"NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the delegates' meeting of the Greater New York CIO Council urges the officers of the AAU to insure full participation of Negroes in the coming meet and protect them from any undemocratic, Jimcrow discrimination."

63

Colored Athletes Will Compete In Texas Meet

Michigan Chronicle

Detroit, Mich.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—National attention will be focused on the National AAU track and field championships here Friday and Saturday, and, at the same time, on the reception Negro athletes will receive from southern whites.

When it was announced last year that the National AAU meet would be held in this city, there was a loud protest by various individual Negro athletes and organizations throughout the country.

Sat. 6-29-46

Send in Entries

But, notwithstanding these protests, officials have in their possessions the entries of most of the star colored athletes, including Herb McKenley, Bill Mathis and George Walker, University of Illinois; Herb Douglas, University of Pittsburgh; Harrison Dillard, Baldwin-Wallace; Ed Dugger and Dave Albritton.

Although they will receive no help toward expenses from the Grand Street Boys association in New York, Jim Herbert and Bernie Mayer, two of that club's four eligibles for the meet, are expected to make the trip to San Antonio.

Reserve Special Car

Herbert, veteran quarter-miler, last week indicated to Daniel J. Ferris, secretary of the National AAU, that he was planning to join the group of New York athletes and officials who have reserved a special car on the train which left New York city Tuesday afternoon.

In addition to Herbert and Mayer, several other Negro athletes from the New York area will make the trip. Ed Conwell, crack sprinter who was undefeated during the indoor season and winner of the century at the Penn Relays; Elmore Harris, defending 200-meter champion, and Charles Slade, Jersey City's high school 400-meter hurdles star, are scheduled to be in the group.

Sat. 6-29-46

Ewell Defends Title

Barney Ewell, 100-meter winner in 1945, was to join the group in Harrisburg, Pa.

The 200-meter should be one of the best races of the meet. Both Harris and McKenley are probably winners. Lloyd LaBeach, University of Wisconsin, and Bill Mathis, loom as the probable winners in the 100.

McKenley, because of his record this season, stands above the other competitors in the 400 meter race.

Afro American Baltimore, Md Sat 2-23-46

Plan Counter Meet to Buck AAU Jimcrow

Daily Worker 1-9-46 New York, N.Y.

By BILL MARDO

The Democratic Spirit which has long typified the field of sports, and which recently gained a toehold in big league baseball, is once again in the forefront of sports news. 1-9-46

Sports editor Stanley Woodward of the **Herald Tribune** deserves a world of credit for coming out in opposition to the Amateur Athletic Union's choice of a Jimcrow site for this summer's annual AAU track and field championship meet. The AAU bigwigs, guided of course by their infamous spokesman, Avery Brundage, have chosen San Antonio, Texas, as the locale for the championship races. And as Woodward wisely pointed out in his Monday column, this represents the height of insult to the seven great Negro stars who currently hold AAU track titles.

For if they made the trip to San Antonio, the Negro athletes would unquestionably be subjected to every sort of discrimination imaginable. For the "privilege" of defending their crowns, they'd have to travel South in a Jimcrow train, sleep in a Jimcrow hotel, eat in a Jimcrow beanery, and walk on a Jimcrow side of the street.

It is therefore heartwarming to see that Stanley Woodward urges every democratic-loving amateur athlete to ignore the San Antonio meet, and instead rally around a counter-championship meet that he plans to organize and hold on Randalls Island the very same day that the "official" AAU games get underway in the South.

Many interested sports writers have already flocked to Woodward's wonderful idea. Al Buck of the **Post**, and **PM's Joe Cummiskey** are all for it—and we're sure that the majority of other scribes will take hold and help Woodward organize this campaign properly.

Joseph Yancey, coach-director of the Pioneer Club, who has coached most of the great Negro champs, is convinced that the current Negro titleholders (Barney Ewell, Elmore Harris, Herbert McKenley, Bob Kelly, Herb Douglas, Joshua Williamson and David Albritton) won't enter the nationals at San Antonio.

This writer is likewise convinced that if the anti-Jimcrow campaign is handled correctly; if the issue is publicized widely in the press and radio—that there will be a mass movement of white athletes and the clubs they represent who'll break away from the Texas meet and flock to the Randalls Island races.

* * *

This action initiated by Stan Woodward can well serve to put the fire under the AAU's Avery Brundage and the other AAU officials whose behavior and hypocrisy have long been a source of irritation to the athletes themselves.

Daily Worker readers are familiar with Brundage, whose reign as AAU spokesman has been one long, stinking mess. Brundage has never been a political non-entity; his views are so well known by now that this latest Jimcrow maneuver of his comes as no great surprise.

Briefly, Brundage is the man who never made any excuses for his pro-Nazi sympathies. As head of the American Olympics Committee in 1936, he pressured for American participation in the Berlin games.

Brundage is the man who wasn't too shy to accept an invitation to speak at a fascist rally in New York in October of '36—on the same rostrum with Nazi Ambassador to the United States, Hans Luther.

Brundage is the Hitler-heiler who kept the famous Jewish track star, Marty Glickman, from going to the Berlin Olympics. Evidently Brundage didn't care to offend Der Fuehrer.

Brundage it was who urged we invite Germany and Japan to the next Olympics. He made that plea a full year before the war ended in Europe, while our GIs everywhere were engaged in deadly battle against those same fascists whom Brundage proposes to play with.

And that's why it's good to see the fire of Democracy burning under Avery Brundage's seat today.

That's why Stanley Woodward's Randalls Island meet must receive the full support of progressives in all walks of life.

Can Win Victory Over Jimcrow by Winning at Texas

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By BILL MARDO Thursday

Eddie Tolan, former Negro track king and '32 Olympics sprint titlist, is firmly convinced that today's crop of Negro champions should compete this Summer in the National AAU championships at San Antonio, Texas.

The ex-sprint star emphasized his position in letters both to this writer, and also the sports editor of **The Michigan Chronicle.** 3-14-46

To the midwest Negro weekly, Tolan stated:

"Holding the National AAU meet in San Antonio is another step towards the eventual end of Jimcrow and discrimination. The chance to advance the Negro race toward the full realization of the rights guaranteed to all Americans under the U.S. Constitution are too great to ignore. The possibility of creating interracial good-will and understanding to that area is much too great to boycott.

"I believe that every Negro athlete should compete as never before to qualify for this year's National AAU. For every Negro who runs in San Antonio does as much as a lighthouse giving direction to those who are lost, or showing the way to safety. Every Negro who wins an event in San Antonio will symbolize the beacon of interracial understanding and good-will, freedom and victory over the theory of 'white supremacy.'

3-14-48

"I sincerely hope not one Negro athlete will allow himself to be used to strengthen the Jimcrow system, but will stand up and be counted on the side of all freedom-loving people who believe in fighting for that freedom they wish.

"The slogan among all Negro athletes this year should be: 'Victory over all forms of discrimination in our business—onward to San Antonio, Texas, for the National AAU meet.'"

* * *

Eddie Tolan's letter to this writer reads in part:

"Dear Mr. Mardo:

"Your article of Feb. 27 compels me to write to you concerning your position on the AAU meet scheduled in San Antonio, Texas, in June. I am sure victory would be achieved having non-Jimcrow train travel through the South (not complete victory by any stretch of the imagination, because such is only possible when any Negro may secure and receive first class transportation to any place in the United States and not violate any Jimcrow state law which now violates those of the United States).

"The fact that Negroes are anxious to house and feed the athletes is a small indication that they realize the over-all value of Negroes participating on a par with white athletes in Texas. This is extremely important.

"I do not believe the AAU is the agency to destroy discrimination and segregation in the South. The federal government is that agency. It is most painful that the job is left to people's organizations interested in a truly democratic America to mass pressure this agency into assuming its responsibilities.

"Regarding the Jimcrow stadium (Alamo Stadium in San Antonio—Ed.), I am bitterly opposed to this practice. Here the AAU can do something. It has control over the conditions under which the athletes run. It is their responsibility to see that the stadium is not Jimcrow. If the AAU fails to do this then every Negro athlete should refuse to run under Jimcrow conditions. I am positive there will be many white athletes who will support, if not take the lead in refusing to run under these conditions. In this way and only in this way can the athletes take a constructive role against Jimcrow.

"Yours for democratic sport throughout our nation—sincerely, Eddie Tolan."

* * *

There's not too much we can add to what one of the greatest Negro runners of all time has stated above. This writer has steadfastly urged a mass campaign directed against AAU officials to gain from them a positive end-Jimcrow stand. In our column of Jan. 26, we said that if the AAU can be "pressured into taking a positive stand in favor of the Negro stars—then the Texas games would be far more valuable and educational than any five track meets in the North. Negro champs have been acclaimed by white fans in almost every field of sports. But this great lesson has yet to be learned by the citizens of the South. For them, the opportunity to view Negro-white athletic competition on an equal basis would go further toward driving the Bilbos and Ku Kluxers from American life than anything else. The phony white supremacy myth that the average southerner has been weaned on, would explode with a bang on the outdoor cinder paths of San Antonio, Texas."

Well, since then the Citywide CIO and its locals have urged the AAU to guarantee democratic rights to the Negro track aces who go to Texas this summer. As was hinted here three weeks ago, Stanley Woodward has now officially shelved his proposed One World Meet at Randall's Island.

There are two points raised by Eddie Tolan that I'd like to discuss briefly. Firstly, while he's correct in saying the AAU isn't the agency to destroy discrimination in the South—that shouldn't by any stretch of the imagination inhibit the pressure campaign against the AAU. For the National AAU is a highly influential body and a fight for Negro rights on their part in the South could well serve to bolster the battle for federal legislation.

Secondly, after raising so many correct reasons why Negro stars should go South, Eddie then says they shouldn't compete if the Alamo Stadium remains Jimcrow for the AAU meet. Well, I think the reasons Tolan enunciated for going South are far too important to be proposed conditionally. Yes, progressives must fight like hell for non-Jimcrow seating admissions at the Alamo Stadium; they must pressure the AAU for action on this vital issue. But if it should develop that the meet must still be waged at a Jimcrow stadium—then it must continue to be supported for all the other reasons that Eddie Tolan highlighted in his two letters reprinted here.

Texas Leaders Refute AAU Track Site Critics

Kansas City Missouri

SAN ANTONIO, Texas. — Agitation emanating from certain eastern sources against Negro athletes participating in the national AAU field and track championships, scheduled for San Antonio, in June, were roundly denounced, this week, by local leaders. They are

scription of San Antonio by Stanley Woodward, New York Herald-Tribune sports editor, as an "uncivilized community."

It is pointed out that it is obvious that Woodward is utterly ignorant of the actual conditions existing in this city or he deliberately falsifies in his many calumnies against the city.

San Antonio has been known from coast to coast, for years, for its unusual interracial comity, and is pointed to as "the" city of the South for Negroes, where racial friction is non-existent.

For nearly 50 years, the Negro in San Antonio has been a powerful political factor, and has been the balance of power in many elections. The race has always had a voice in and has been a part of, city and community affairs and activities.

Despite the custom of other southern cities, Negro and white athletes have competed against each other in San Antonio for years, in baseball and basketball, without a single instance to mar the relationship between the two races. There are usually more interracial baseball games played each season than there are all-Negro games.

In order to keep the records straight, and to counteract the infamous "smart campaign" now being waged by a handful of agitators against San Antonio as the site of the AAU meet, local leading athletic and civic organizations are planning to individually contact all nationally-known Negro athletes, giving them full assurance that their stay and competitive efforts in the Alamo City will be as pleasant and as much appreciated as in any other city in the country.

Plans for their reception, accommodations, transportation, and entertainment have been carefully laid, and will be the best ob-tainable.

2-1-48

Railroad companies have given assurance that there will be no transportation problem or embarrassment en route.

San Antonians find it hard to believe that Negro athletes will be influenced by a handful of agitators or crack-pots, to pass up the opportunity to serve the cause of racial relations by boycotting the meet.

San Antonians who have gone to eastern schools and lived in the east and north, avow to the fact that there is less discrimination in San Antonio than in many cities n the north.

—Cummiskey—

But It's Still Jim Crow in Texas

The Texas Chamber of Commerce, San Antonio division, is upset about what it considers a "bad press" for the proposed National AAU track and field championships which are to be held in June—held in Jim Crow Texas with seven Negro national titlists expected to defend despite segregation and the color line of the Deep Souf'.

That's why Mr. Eric Pohl of San Antonio, organizer of the South Texas Association, AAU, is in town and answering questions about what kind of a deal Negro athletes in the nationals will get in the Lone Star state.

He was brought here, apparently, by the Amsterdam *News* and Parole Commissioner Samuel J. Battle to explain why it's to the Negro's best interests to compete in Texas.

Amsterdam News sports editor, Dan Burley, believes Negroes *should* go to Texas despite the Jim Crow gun held at his head. Burley took his stand after several of us thought Negroes should boycott the meet and compete in a rival meet at Randalls Island.

Pohl answered questions about where the Negro stars would be quartered, and so forth, pointing out a rich Texan Negro has made arrangements to put them up in private homes, will see that they have the best of everything, etc.

He gave it the You-know-how-it-is-in-the-South, but it seems to me the AAU people are a bit upset about what might happen to their meet if Negro champions—there are seven—refuse to go South and submit to the indignities of racism while saving the meet at the Box Office.

Thur. 2-28-46

One club—well known in the Nation for its democratic setup—has decided against sending a team. And that's the Pioneer Club, an outstanding mixed-membership track organization. Joe Yancey, amateur coach-director of the club, said it violates every principle of the club to put up with what a Negro athlete would have to put up with if he went to Texas and, as a result, the club will not enter a team.

Other stars—like Barney Ewell, Elmore Harris and Herb McKinley, all Negroes—would rather race elsewhere but are prepared to go to San Antonio. The AAU, of course, would bar them for life if they flouted the meet and competed elsewhere and because of that big stick, they have decided to go along.

Yancey, by the way, wasn't asked in on the Pohl conference. Pohl said the South Texas AAU can't guarantee control of public opinion in Texas where Negroes are involved and what solution he offers seems like nothing to me. He says everything possible will be done to make the Negro stars stay in San Antonio a happy one.

Who's he kiddin'? And it seems typical indeed that the man from Texas should do his explaining in the office of a parole commissioner, a man I admire personally, but which hardly seems a proper setting for discussion of a deep racial problem. What's criminal about it all anyway? —JOE CUMMISKEY

Crack Athletes Head for AAU Texas Games in Special Car

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 6-29-46

NEW YORK.—Dan Ferris, secretary of the National Amateur Athletic Union, announced late last week that a special Pullman car had been chartered for athletes making the trip to San Antonio, Tex., for the national track and field championships this week end.

The purpose of the special car, Ferris said, is to enable non-white cinder stars to avoid jim-crow regulations in effect on most Southern railroads.

The car will be attached to the Tuesday running of the Pennsylvania's "Spirit of St. Louis" and will be switched to the Katy Line's "Texas Special" out of the Mound City.

In the group leaving New York will be Eddie Conwell, former sprinting ace at NYU, who is now running unattached.

To be picked up en route are Barney Ewell, national 100-meter champion, at Harrisburg; Ed Dugger, Dave Albritton and Norman Bright at Dayton, O.; Harrison Dillard, Baldwin-Wallace's record-tying hurdler, at Cleveland, and at St. Louis four Illinois aces, Herbert McKenley, record-shattering quarter-miler, who will defend his national 400-meter title; Bill Mathis, Dike Eddleman, white, and George Walker.

Jimmy Herbert, local quarter-mile champion, and Irving Mondschein, former decathlon champion, will not go to the nationals, owing to the withdrawal of financial support by the Grand Street Boys.

63i 1946

AAU (San Antonio, Texas--RESULTS)

McKENLEY BEATEN BY HARRIS—

Dillard Is Double Winner In National AAU Meet

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 7-6-46

SAN ANTONIO, Texas—William Harrison Dillard, former corporal in the 92nd division and winner of the 200-meters hurdles in the Fifth Army's track and field championships in Milan, Italy, in 1945, came through to win both the 200-meters low and the 110-meters high hurdles in the 59th annual National Amateur Athletic Union's senior track and field championships here Saturday, June 29.

Dillard was the only double winner in the meet. The Baldwin-Wallace college of Cleveland star, led white Alfred Lawrence of the Los Angeles A.C., to the tape in the 200-meters low in 23.3 seconds.

George Walker, the University of Illinois' Big Ten double hurdles champion from Robbins, Ill., was third.

Dillard, who was double hurdles winner in the National Collegiates in Minneapolis the week previous, led the white Texas hurdles ace, Bill Cummings of Rice Institute, Houston, Texas, to the tape in the 110-meters high hurdles in 14.2 seconds. Again Walker of Illinois was third and Edward Dugger, the former Tufts college and National Collegiate star of a few years ago, was fourth. Cummings was 1942-43 National AAU champion.

* * *

DAVE ALBRITTON who was defending champion, although it was a three-way tie for first place last year, came through with a 6-foot, 6 and 7-8th inch leap to win that event. Paul Robeson Jr., son of the great singer and actor and now doing duty at the local military training center, was in a five-way tie for third. Until his induction, Robeson Jr., was a student at Cornell University, Ithica, N. Y. John Jones Jr., Alabama State Teachers College in Montgomery, Ala., who went into a three-way tie for first place in the junior meet the night before, was among the five to tie Robeson.

Notwithstanding the fact that Dillard was the star of the meet, the 400-meters event brought Herbert McKenley, the British, West Indies, runner from the University of Illinois and Big Ten and National Collegiate champion, into the limelight. McKenley was defending champion. He had set a new world's record of 46.2 in the Big Ten meet. Advance publicity made this the one real race of the afternoon.

However, McKenley was leading up to the last 50 yards when Elmore Harris, former Morgan State College quartermiler, overtook McKenley and beat him to the finish line by three strides. Harris' winning time was 46.3 seconds. In third place was Ray Cochran, white, of the Los Angeles A.C., and formerly of the University of Indiana. Dave Bolen, Southern University at Scotlandville, La., was fourth. Bolen won the Robert S. Abbott Memorial quartermile event at the Tuskegee relays this spring. Harris represented the Shore A.C. of Long Branch, N. J.

Hubert Gates, Hampton Institute, placed third in the 400-meters hurdles.

* * *

BARNEY EWELL, the former Penn State flash, now running for a Catholic club in Philadelphia, was winner of the 200-meters run. In second place was Lloyd LaBeach, the Panama born freshman at the University of Wisconsin. Elmore Harris was third. Bill Mathis, the University of Illinois freshman from Washington, D. C., was fifth. Ewell's time was 21.2 seconds.

That 200-meters event saw Negro runners finish one, two, three. The 400-meters saw them finish one, two.

Ewell and Ed Conwell, the former NYU star and now of the Shore A.C. of Long Branch, N. J., were kicked out of the final of the 100-meters because of two false starts. The winner was Bill Mathis, University of Illinois, in 10.7 seconds. Herbert Douglas, formerly of Xavier university in New Orleans but now of the University of Pittsburgh, was third.

In the 800-meters, Melvin Whitfield, Ohio State's Negro middle distance runner, was second. Lewis "Jack Rabbit" Smith, formerly of Prairie View State College in Texas but now of Virginia University in Richmond, Va., was third and Roscoe Browne, Lincoln University of Pennsylvania was fourth.

Valmore Ballenger, publisher of the San Antonio Register, former Lincoln University of Pennsylvania football player and later a student at the University of Minnesota, led the Negro citizens committee which housed and entertained the Negro athletes.

THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 7-6-46

LESS THAN 5,000 paid customers saw the National Amateur Athletic Union's senior track and field championships in San Antonio, Texas, Saturday. Next year the AAU moguls will stay up North where all athletes will feel like competing. Many stayed home this time—and we didn't blame them one bit. Tom Carey, Metropolitan sprint champion from New York City, was not sent by the Pioneer A. C. and the Grand Street Boys' club of New York refused to financially assist the Metropolitan area AAU team in getting to Texas.

Fay Young

Barney Ewell, Shanahan Catholic club of Philadelphia and defending champion in the 100-meters run, and Ed Conwell, former New York University sprint ace now representing the Shore A.C. of Long Branch, N. J., were "tossed" out of the finals of that event because they "jumped the gun" twice. It will be remembered, however, that Conwell was one of the guilty parties in the Chicago relays sprints. It is doubtful, even though he was victory in the Chicago relays, that he will be invited to compete in 1947.

* * *

NEGRO WINNERS WERE Elmore Harris, former Morgan State star and now of the Shore A.C., Long Branch, N. J., in the 400 meters: David Albritton, former Ohio State and Olympic star, in the high jump; Bill Mathis, University of Illinois freshman and National Collegiate champion, in the 100-meters and Harrison Dillard, of Baldwin-Wallace college in Cleveland, who won the 110-meters high hurdles and the 200-meters low hurdles to become the only double winner and the star of the meet.

Herb McKenley, University of Illinois quarter-mile star who set a new world's record of 46.2 seconds for that distance in the Big Ten meet, finished second to Elmore Harris in the 400-meters hurdles. He was beaten by three strides in a thrilling finish by Harris who came from behind in the last 50 yards. Harris was clocked in 46.3 seconds. McKenley was defending champion.

Dillard didn't enter the junior meet on Friday night. Lloyd LaBeach, University of Wisconsin freshman, clipped one-tenth of a second off the 200-meters run on a curved track in the junior meet. His time was 21.4 seconds and broke a mark set in 1937 and equaled in 1939.

John Jones, Alabama State Teachers College of Montgomery, was in a three-way tie for first place in the junior high jump at 6 feet, 4½ inches. Dave Bolen, who won the Robert S. Abbott 440-yard memorial race trophy at the Tuskegee relays this spring, won the 400-meters junior event for Southern University, Scotlandville, La.

* * *

WHATEVER MIKE JACOBS decides to do about getting Joe Louis back in the ring in September, the fans are going to be kept on the right track by some outspoken sports writers. If Jacobs pulls Tami Mauriello out of the bag for Louis, the fight isn't any $7.50 tops including the tax.

In the dressing room after the Conn fight, Louis told us that he didn't intend to fight again this year. He said he was going to take a much needed rest.

No matter what Joe finally decides Tami isn't fit to be in the same ring with the Brown Bomber. True, Jacobs may think so. We happen to know that Tami has a bad ankle, injured in a leap off a one-story building when a boy. A bone was severed.

We know the Illinois boxing commission won't stand for any such match. We hope the New York ring body of which Dr. C. B. Powell is a member, will turn thumbs down on it and we finally hope that Mike Jacobs has more sense than to believe the public will support such a shindig.

Hail, AAU Champions

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 7-6-46

Dixie's race purists took quite a beating on Friday and Saturday as our athletes literally stole the show at the National AAU track and field championships at San Antonio, Texas.

Our boys romped off with 7 of 9 events entered in the senior championships on Saturday and placed second and third in the other two.

They captured four of the junior titles on Friday to give a total of 11 championships, spotlighted by Harrison Dillard, crack Baldwin-Wallace timber-topper, who was the only double-winner of the meet with titles in the 110 high and 200 meter low hurdles.

When it was first announced that the games would be held in Texas (first time in the Southland in 36 years), sports fans and writers were divided as to whether our athletes should go. There was even talk of boycotting the games because of their jim crow locale.

The athletes, however, looked at the thing differently and decided, jim crow or not, they were going to Texas to show their wares and make the South sit up and take notice. They made a tremendous contribution which certainly should do something toward changing Dixie's thinking along racial

Texans React Favorably Over San Antonio Meet

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 7-13-46

SAN ANTONIO, Texas—Judging from the reaction of whites here, this is one Southern town that is ready for a closer understanding between the races.

The AFRO conducted a wide open survey at the conclusion of the National AAU track and field championships last Saturday, interviewing local whites at random, and found not a single person who would express dissatisfaction over the holding of the meet here. Nor was there found one man who would admit being peeved at the success of non-whites in the competitions.

One woman, Mrs. Gloria Cameron, of an address in Hondo St., felt it was "nice" to hold the meet here but wished the "Nigra boys hadn't run away with all the running races."

Favorable Reactions

Reactions from the other white residents of the city were all favorable. Following are some of the expressions:

Kermit Ruschner, of the Farris Rug Co.: "San Antonio has been ready for this sort of thing for sometime. It's too bad we had to wait so long."

Edward Beimister, 309 N. Camaron: "I was glad to see it. Those boys of yours certainly can run and they deserved to win when they did."

Carl F. Ricketts, 717 Avenue E: "Why I saw that Albritton (high jump champ) at Dallas several years ago and I also saw some of them in New Orleans once. The South doesn't mind that sort of thing, or at least it shouldn't."

Dr. George Kennedy, 3000 Broadway: "I sincerely believe that if it were left to the people of San Antonio, there would be no distinction whatsoever between the races in the matter of sports."

Wilmer Alberts, Gunter Hotel: "As far as I can see there's no need for your questions. The colored boys were invited here the same as the whites, weren't they? Our people wanted to see the best athletes, they weren't concerned whether they were white or black."

Sears Chaplin, 508 N. Navarro St.: "The colored beat the whites when they could and the whites beat the Nigras when they could. That's all a track meet amounts to. Nobody expected to be hurt and nobody got hurt."

Mrs. Bernice Gildemeister, wife of a local merchant: "I went Friday night, and my son and I went Saturday afternoon. We thought it was fine."

Abraham Mindes, clothing store dealer: "It was good, good for everybody. It was good for the colored boys, good for San Antonio, good for business!"

Miss Hermione Cosnick, 1007 Houston St.: "It was my first time to see a track meet but nothing seemed unfair to me. I enjoyed watching it. I think that Dillard (Harrison) was marvelous."

Charles Fraser, 66 Jefferson St.: "I am glad they held it here."

George Hemphill, 241 N. St. Marys St.: "Naturally, I wanted to see the Texas boys win more than they did but they were beaten fair. Better watch 'em next year, though, no matter where the meet's held."—SAM LACY.

lines.

Certainly they made a mockery of the old "superior races" theory and did it convincingly. But the Bilbos, Rankins and Eastlands are not going to like that.

In this corner

Daily Worker
Tues 7-2-46

Jimcrow Ran Last at Texas AAU

By Bill Mardo

As you know, the AAU track championships were held in San Antonio over the weekend, Texas, that is, and while no earth-shaking revolution will sweep the South in its aftermath you can rest assured that the very fact that Negro and whites competed together on an equal basis in the heart of the South—that Southerners sat in the Alamo Stadium and watched seven national titles go to dark-skinned athletes—yes, you can rest assured that another wedge was driven deep into the lie which has, for so long, kept the South strangled in its own world of discrimination, ignorance, polltaxes and night terrorism.

While Bilbo was telling an audience in Starkville, Mississippi, that he'll "fight, fight and fight, kill, kill and kill," in another section of the South Negro athletes were winning, winning and winning. While Bilbo was turning the stomach of all decent Americans with his frantic, croaking plea that "the best time to see the Negro about not voting is the night before," Texans looked on . . . and many of them learned from it . . . as a Negro sprinter named Billy Mathis copped the 100-meter dash; as another Negro runner named Barney Ewell captured the 200-meter crown; as the 400-meter event went to yet another Negro speedster named Elmore Harris; as Dave Albritton, Negro, took the Running High Jump title; as Willie Steele, Negro, sped home the victor in the Running Broad Jump; yes, and as Bilbo droned on in Starkville, Mississippi, about the God-given superiority of the Anglo-Saxons . . . in San Antonio, Texas, it was a Negro, Harrison Dillard, who racked up the only double-victory of the AAU meet by winning both the 110-Meter High Hurdles and later the 200-Meter Low Hurdles.

This, in our opinion, was the single overriding factor which made it correct to campaign in favor of Negro runners going South to compete in the first large-scale AAU championships ever held below the Mason-Dixon line. That on a Southern athletic field, despite any other considerations, both Negro and whites would prove in life the futility of Jimcrow, the monstrous falsehood of Bilbo's white supremacy spleen. Tues 7-2-46

We don't have available yet all the facts about what took place socially in San Antonio this past weekend, but we do know that on the whole, the question which was so strongly debated for months, re: "Should Negro Athletes Compete in Jimcrow Texas," has now been answered. Not only should they have competed, but they did. And the entry of Negro athletes into the Southern meet was done, not in any submissive, yielding-to-Jimcrow manner, but as part and parcel of the larger fight against Jimcrow.

The Daily Worker, for one, while urging Negro athletes to go South and blast the white supremacy myth, at the same time fought a campaign to win as much possible in the way of non-Jimcrow accommodations for the Negro athletes who wanted to go to Texas. The trade unions in New York did a good job, urging AAU secretary Dan Ferris to guarantee that there would be no Jimcrowing of the great Negro champions who wanted to put their titles on the line right in the land of Jimcrow.

It was because of all this, then, that a powerful triumph was scored around the question of winning equal, non-Jimcrow transportation on the jaunt South. All the athletes, Negro and white, used the same car, a special Pullman which was attached to the Pennsylvania Railroad's "Spirit of St. Louis," and then to the Katy Line's "Texas Special." All the athletes ate together in the regular dining car on the Katy Line.

There were no color lines drawn on the railroad ride South. This must be considered a true victory in the fight for Negro rights. Sure, now that the track meet is over, Jimcrow will once more rule on the Southern railroad lines. Not for too long though—remember the victory just scored on the Southern bus lines?

And those thousands of Texans . . . those who saw Negro and white athletes run, jump and pole-vault together . . . shake hands all the way around after each event . . . a white hand clasped sincerely in a black hand . . . those Texans who saw Negroes lose and win . . . they'll have cause now to wonder why, if white and Negro played together, yes, why weren't they allowed to stay together in the same San Antonio hotel . . . and if they learned anything from the sight of interracial competition, then they'll be wondering about a lot of other things, too . . . about the vote . . . the men like Bilbo . . . the terrible hoax that is Jimcrow.

Harrison Dillard Annexes 200 Meter Hurdles in 23.3

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Elmore Harris, ex-Morgan State Star, Dethrones Herb McKenley in 400 Duel

Sat. 7-6-46

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

SAN ANTONIO, Texas—Coming into the deep South for first time in history and brushing off the white supremacy myth as though it were a fleck dandruff on a coat lapel, seven "invaders" romped off with titles in National AAU Track and Field Championships at Alamo Stadium Saturday.

Added to four won in junior events Friday night, bronzed athletes scored 11 firsts in 18 competitions, demonstrating marked defiance for sectional tradition by surpassing their achievements of the past 10 years.

The attendance Friday night was 4,735 and 5,308 Saturday afternoon for a total of 10,143.

As has been the custom since 1942, the only double champion was a member of the "Invasion" party, Harrison Dillard, ace Baldwin-Wallace timber-topper, who captured the 110-meters high hurdles in the sparkling time of 14.2 seconds, and the 200-meter low hurdles in 23.3 seconds.

Others crowned:

Billy Mathis, ex-Cardozo High athlete, now of the U. of Illinois, 100-meters, 10.7 seconds; Barney Ewell, Philadelphia, 200-meters 21.2 seconds; Elmore Harris, formerly of Morgan, now of the Shore A. C., New Jersey, 400-meters, 46.3 seconds; Willie Steele, San Diego State, broad jump, 24 feet; Dave Albritton, Dayton, high jump, 6 feet, 6⅞ inches.

Get 7 Out of 9

Thus seven championships were annexed in nine they sought, going one better than were garnered last year at Randalls Island. In two lost, they finished second and third.

As if this were not sufficient for their first expedition to Dixie, junior entries gathered four of nine titles competed for under lights Friday night, their finest performance in the history of the games.

Although no double was scored, Dillard's feat had a rival in the record-breaking victory of Wisconsin's youthful sensation, Lloyd La Beach, registered in the 200-meter dash.

The Jamaica-born badger charged into the tape in 21.4 seconds, turning tables on Bill Martineson, white, Baylor, who had previously shaded him in 100. Previously existing mark of 21.5 for 200-meters on a curved track was made by Edward O'Sullivan, white, New York, in 1937.

Three Other Champions

Three other junior champions: David Bolen, Southern, 400-meters, 48.3 seconds; Charles Slade, Lincoln High, Jersey City, 400-meters hurdles, 56.3 seconds, and John Jones, Alabama State, who finished 3-1 way tie high jump at 6 feet 4½ inches.

Added to these first places, a host of seconds, thirds and fourths were chalked up. In no event in which they were entered did the "Invader" forces fail to place.

They garnered four runner-up spots: Herb McKenley, Illinois, in 400; Herb Douglas, Pittsburgh, broad jump; La Beach, Wisconsin, 200; Mal Whitfield, Ohio State, 800 meters.

Eight of their number shared third places as follow:

Herb Douglas, Pittsburgh, 100; George Walker, Illinois, 110 high hurdles; Walker again in 200 low hurdles; Elmore Harris, Shore A. C., in 200 meters; Lewis (Wildcat) Smith, Union, 800 meters; Hubert Gates, Hampton, 400 meters hurdles, and Paul Robeson, Jr., ex-Cornell, now San Antonio Military Training Center, and John Jones, Alabama State, last two of whom figured in five-man tie for high jump third.

Mathis Winner

Finals 100-meters went to Mathis after the disqualification of defending champion Barney Ewell and ex-national indoor champ Eddie Conwell for false starts.

Mathis rushed to front at gun, opened lead one yard, challenged at 70 by Martineson, who moved to his elbow. Illinois speedster outgamed white Texan in dog fight to wire. Douglas was hard running third.

Ewell came back to take complete charge in 200, finishing with ease in front of La Beach and 1945 champ, Elmore Harris. Bob Crowson, white, Columbia, Mo., was fourth.

Dillard lived up to expectations by sweeping hurdles in handy fashion. He was driving winner over Bill Cummins, white, Rice, who came up to Nip Walker when latter faltered after knocking down final defense. Dillard took 200-meter lows from white Merle Martin, Fresno State, timed in 23.3, one second over world record set by Fred Wolcott, white, Rice, 1940.

400 Is Exciting

Most exciting race of day was 400, in which Harris dethroned McKenley, who only three weeks ago had set new world mark of 46.1 seconds.

Harris out-drove the nimble-footed Illini ace in a hair-raising stretch duel, winning by scant yard with Roy Cochran, white, Los Angeles third over Southern's Bolen.

The half mile test was another stirring battle with veteran Johnny Fulton, white, Frisco, withstanding tremendous burst of speed by Ohio State's Whitfield, who out-distanced CIAA stars, Wildcat Lewis, Union, and Roscoe Browne, Lincoln, in that order.

In the only other event "Invaders" failed to win, Hampton's Gates was outrun from start to finish by Arky Erwin, Hot Springs, Ark., who was repeating his 1945 score, and Jack Morris, white, New York A. C.

Conspicuous by absence were members of New York Pioneer Club whose coach, Joe Yancey, stuck by original decision to boycott affair because of award to Southern city.

No Incidents Occur

Chief among those who might have challenged for titles were Reggie Pearman, middle distance star; Sam Williamson, sprinter and broad jumper, and Tom Carey, national indoor dash champion.

There were no untoward incidents, many of the cinder stars expressing satisfaction with treatment accorded them.

Elmore Harris, for instance, told AFRO, "It has been just fine, even surpassing my expectations."

McKenley, Dillard, Conwell marks approved by Nat'l AAU

Tribune Los Angeles Calif. Sat. 12-21-46

SAN ANTONIO—Among the 10 track and field records approved here last week at the National AAU were those Herb McKenley, Harrison Dillard, and Eddie Conwell.

Jamaica-born, Illini star McKenley's :29.8 for the 300 yards and Dillard's (Baldwin-Wallace) :23.3 220 low hurdle around a turn were approved as new American records, while Dillard's :23.3 200-meter hurdle around a turn was accepted as the new national senior mark.

Dillard's :22.5 for the straightaway 220 low hurdles was recognized as equalling the American record; and the :6.1 60-yard indoor dash of Conwell, Shore A C's flash, was accepted as equalling the American record, as was McKenley's :48.1 440-yard run on a dirt track.

NAAU awarded the 1947 junior and senior Track and Field Championships to Lincoln, Nebr., for June 3-4; and the indoor championships to New York, for Feb. 21-22. San Antonio will get the junior and senior Women's Championships July 4-5.

The rules committee kept the allowance of two false starts, and turned down a proposal to penalize runners the false-start yardage.

Boston will get the senior boxing championships, tentatively set for April 7-9; Kansas City, Mo., is set for the junior titles. No dates have been set for the Decathlon at Bloomfield, N. J.; nor for the Pentathlon, at Elizabeth, N. J.

In this Corner

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

That 'Dream Mile' May Be A Reality Soon

Bill Mardo

2-7-46

Oh but it was wonderful news yesterday to learn that Frank Dixon is home, re-enrolled at NYU, and already whipping himself into shape on the Violets' cinder track.

I don't know what condition the former mile king is in today; reports are that he's got some weight to pare off—but here's hoping the tall, handsome Negro kid can make it in time for the late indoor season.

Imagine the thrills inherent in a mile duel between Leslie MacMitchell and Dixon! Imagine the mile clockings these two are capable of producing once they're both in top shape!

Yes, it's thrilling to know that Frank is back.

Just as Dixon's meteoric rise upon the track scene thrilled the sports world in the early months of 1943

Remember the NYU student's 4:11.4 race at Boston in February of '43? That was Dixon's second attempt over the mile route, and in beating Earl Mitchell and Gil Dodds to the tape he became the first Negro runner to ever cop a major mile race.

FRANK DIXON

Not only did Dixon triumph over Dodds and Mitchell in that race—but he also tore to tiny shreds the foul fascist propaganda of the Hearst papers which for a long, long time had been running articles and "authoritative" anatomical diagrams to "prove" that Negroes were incapable of winning long-distance races. "They're built differently," is the way those Hearst articles summed up.

So Frank Dixon's initial mile triumph was also a victory over the vile track theorists who had been chanting their Hitlerian theme-song for years. 2-7-46

And through the 1943 season, Dixon rammed that song further and further down the Hearst scribblers' throats. For the slim, smooth-striding Negro kid rapidly chalked up successive wins in the Hunter Mile, the National AAU Mile and the K. of C. Columbian Mile race.

I'll never forget that Columbian race at Madison Square Garden the night of March 13, 1943. If ever Dixon proved his complete maturity into the ranks of all-time track greatness, that was the night. It was a classic example of the "perfect" race. Here's how it went:

Don Burnham took the lead at the gun, with the other five entries strung tightly behind him. Earl Mitchell forged to the front on the second lap, while Dodds and Dixon held back in fourth and fifth place. Mitchell's strategy was to lead the field at a slow pace and come into the bell-lap with enough of a kick left to offset any challenge from Dixon and Dodds. But Mitchell's hopes were wrecked when Gil Dodds decided to take over the lead and open up. The bespectacled divinity student really poured it on as Mitchell and Jim Rafferty quickly fell back. But the roar of the packed Garden audience told Dodds that there was one guy in the race who wasn't losing ground . . . who was dogging his blazing heels with a smoothness and strength that boded ill for Dodds.

At the half-mile it was already a two man race, Dodds and Dixon. The first half-mile was reeled off in the blistering time of 2:02.7. Round and round the two whirled, Dodds struggling to keep the lead, his face contorted with the effort, his unpicturesque form of flailing arms and churning legs bespeaking the gruel of the pace.

Then, with two laps left, Dixon made his bid. The Negro stylist came off the Ninth Avenue turn, began his kick, pulled even with Dodds . . . then passed him. Dodds fought to regain the lead, but reckoned without the staying stamina of the amazing 20-year-old kid who was blazing his way to track history. As the gun sounded the last lap, Dixon amazed the crowd by pulling another "kick" out of his system. He increased his lead to over three yards as he whistled down the straightaway to the tape. Some 15,000 fans absolutely pulled the roof down as Dixon's 4:09.6 time was announced.

That, my friends, was a race to remember. 2-7-46

And the kid who ran it is home again, after long service in the Pacific. While in the army, Dixon won the 3,000, 1,500 and 800-meter runs in the Manila Olympics.

So maybe he's not too far off his freshman form.

So maybe it won't be too many weeks hence before we'll all be watching him in those dream-races against that other NYU miler, the truly talented Leslie MacMitchell.

Dixon Brings New Track Hope to NYU

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City Okla.

NEW YORK—(ANP) — Frank T. Dixon, the fleet miler, whose speed made him the first Negro to win the National A. A. U. mile title in 1934, returned to New York university recently after three years spent in the army. Hailed by coaches and trackmen, Dixon, 23, is regarded as a major threat to Leslie MacMitchell, the reigning eight-furlough king, and a boost to N. Y. U's chances for winning the National A. A. U. and I. C. A. A. A. A. team titles.

A second-semester freshman, Dixon has two or perhaps three years of varsity eligibility, according to Coach Emil Von Elling. Also a 1943 winner of the Hunter Mile in 4:11.4 and the Casey Mile in 4:09.6, Dixon did some running in the army, winning in the 800, 1,500, and 3,000 meter runs in the Luzon trials for the Manila GI olympics. Sat 2-23-46

Five pounds overweight, at 165, Dixon has already started training to lose these and get back into form before indoor season closes.

DIXON IN 2-MILE RACE

New York Times

N.Y.U. Star Returning to Action in Metropolitan Meet

New York

Frank Dixon, New York University's 4:09.6-miler of 1943, will make his post-war competitive debut in the metropolitan intercollegiate track and field championships at Columbia University's South Field tomorrow, Coach Emil Von Elling announced yesterday. Dixon, released from the Army six weeks ago, will run in the two-mile event. Fri. 3.15-46

While the hardships he endured in the Pacific, including malaria, have made the road back a rough one for Dixon, the Negro star has been training regularly and is beginning to round into racing shape. Von Elling believes him capable of 9:50 or thereabouts, fast enough to make Manhattan's I. C. 4-A champions, Eddie O'Toole and Eddie Walsh, keep moving.

Although the Callender twins, who are visiting in Boston, and Frank Martin, who has an examination, will be out of action, N. Y. U. has more than enough scoring strength to be sure of winning team honors. Manhattan figures to provide N. Y. U. with what little team competition may be expected. Fordham, Columbia, City College, Brooklyn College, Kings Point and St. John's will have full representation but are not yet up to strength. N. Y.

Dixon Eighth in U.S. Cross-Country Run

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Frank Dixon, distance star of **New York University, finished in eighth place in the annual U.S. collegiate cross-country championships here last week, leading his Violet teammates to a second-place title in the competition.** Sat. 12-7-46

Winner was Drake University, with 42 points. NYU turned in a score of 84 points, with low scoring team being declared the victor.

631 1946 General

Former Sprinter Manages Toronto Track Team

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-11-46

Members of the Malvernette Athletic Club of Toronto, Ontario, are shown here with their guide and manager, Gene Lowe. Photo was taken in Buffalo, N.Y., last week where members of this track team took fourth place honors in the National Women's Field and Track Championships. First place winners were Alice Coachman and her Tuskegee Institute teammates who won the championship for the 10th time in 11 years. Before she became manager of the all-white team, Miss Lowe was leading sprinter with the Montreal Laurel Athletic Club of Montreal, Canada.

CLARK HOLDS SIAC TRACK AND FIELD CROWN; BROWN STARS

Daily World

By THELBA M. BROWN

The Clark College Panthers came from third place to finish first in the Ninth Annual Southern Conference Intercollegiate Track and Field Meet in AU Bowl, Saturday afternoon, as a record breaking crowd took control of the field. Clark was the defending champion and won the SIAC Track crown for the second straight year.

During the early stage of the meet Morehouse lead both Tuskegee and Clark by a few points, but as soon as the field events were well underway Clark took the lead and finished with a total of 51 points. Nel. 5-22-46

After such a grand showing in Tuskegee Relays, Tuskegee Institute was favored to defeat Clark for the title, but was unable to match the Clark Thinclads in field events. Throughout the meet the maroon thinclads from Morehouse College were a constant threat to Tuskegee and Clark.

"JUDO" BROWN LEADS TEAM

Joseph "Judo" Brown, Clark's one man track team proved to be the most colorful performer in the meet by capturing four first places and scoring 22 of his team's 51 points. Sharing the spotlight with Brown was Jeffrey Jennings, also of Clark who placed second to Brown in the 220 yard low hurdles. Jennings was outstanding in all field events, winning the Discus Throw, placing in the Javelin Throw and fourth in the Shot Put.

Jno Floyd, of Morehouse sprang the upset of the afternoon by defeating Jesse Henderson of Fisk who was favored to take the One Mile Run. Fred Thomas, of Tuskegee won the 880 yard run with only a chest lead on Floyd in fact many were of the opinion that it was a dead heat. Luther Ware of Morehouse came thru in the 120 Yard High Hurdles by defeating the highly favored Jeffrey Jennings of Clark. A few weeks past Jennings and Ware ran a dead heat in a 16 sec. flat. Ware won the event Saturday in a good time of 15.4 sec. Atlanta

TUSKEGEE RELAY TEAM BEST IN SOUTH Georgia

The undefeated One Mile Relay team from Tuskegee composed of Claude Oliver, Clarence Davis, Fred Thomas and Charles Gray ran true to form by winning the One Mile Relay in a good time of 3 min. 32 sec. Tuskegee remains the only undefeated Relay team in the South. Charles Gray, of Tuskegee who placed second in the Tuskegee Relays won the quarter-mile run closely pushed by Edward Bouie, or Morris Brown and Paul Sandford from Morehouse.

John "Big Train" Moody, Morris Brown's ace field man placed first in the Shot put. Alex Brown the darkhorse from Tuskegee came thru to win the 100 yard dash defeating the favorite Jos. Brown. Barrett of Morehouse ran second.

SUMMARY Nel. 5-22-46

100 YARD DASH—Won by Alex Brown, Tuskegee Institute, Lloyd Barrett Morehouse College second Joseph Brown Clark College, 3rd Robert McIntyre Tuskegee Institute fourth. Time 10 sec.

200 YARD DASH — Won by Joseph Brown Clark College, Alex Brown Tuskegee Institute second. Rober McIntrye Tuskegee Inst., 3d Talmadge Owens Clark College 4th. Time 22.3.

120 YARD HIGH HURDLES — Won by Luther Ware Morehouse College, Jeffrey Jennings Clark College second, Claude Oliver, Tuskegee Institute third. Time 15.4 sec.

220 YARD LOW HURDLES — Won by Joseph Brown Clark College, Jefrey Jennings Clark College second, Luther Ware Morehouse third, Bonner Xavier University fourth. Time 25.1 sec.

440 YARD RUN—Won by Charles Gray Tuskegee Inst Edward Bouie Morris Brown second, Paul Sandford Morehouse College third, Montgomery, Xavier University 4th. Time 50 sec. Nel. 5-22-46

880 YARD RUN—Won by Fred Thomas Tuskegee Inst., Jno Floyd Morehouse College second, Charles Gray Tuskegee Inst. 3rd Edwin Thompson Morehouse College 4th Time 2 min. 6.4 sec.

ONE MILE RUN—Won by John Floyd Morehouse College, Jesse Henderson Fisk University second Biggs Morehuose College third, J. C Walker Alabama A and M 4th Time 4 min. 44 sec.

TWO MILE RUN—Won by William Fields South Carolina State Homer Biggs Morehouse College 2nd Herman Jones Tuskegee Inst 3rd William Dunn Alabama A and M fourth. Time 11 min. 17 sec.

ONE MILE RELAY — Won by Tuskegee Inst., (Claude Oliver, Charles Gray, Fred Thomas Clarence Davis) Morris Brown second (J. Thomas C. Jackson, E. Bouie T Adams) Morehouse College third (Thompson, Bell, Ware, Sandford) Clark College fourth (R. Garmon, Voit, Hill, Williams) Time 3 min 32 sec.

POLE VAULT — Won by Jed Carter Tuskegee Inst., J. Traylor Morehouse second height 9 feet 6 inches.

HIGH JUMP— Won by Joseph

Brown Clark College, Talmadge Owens Clark College second, Samuel Mitchum Xavier University third Davis Tuskegee Inst. fourth Height 6 feet 3 inches.

JAVELIN THROW—Won by Jas Cathey Tuskegee Institute- Jeffrey Jennings Clark College sec-

ond, Frank Wade, Tuskegee Inst. 41 ft. 3 1-2 in. third, Odom Morehouse, fourth. Distance 165 ft. 3½ in.

SHOT PUT—Won by Jno Mood Morris Brown College, Clark College second, R. Bolton Clark College, third Jeffrey Jennings Clark College 4th. Distance

Atlanta, Ga.

DISCUS THROW—Won by Jeffrey Jennings Clark College. Samuel Mitchum Xavier University 2d Howell Otis Smith Morehouse College 3rd R Bolton Clark College 4th Distance 119 feet 8 in.

BROAD JUMP— Won by Joseph Brown Clark College, Talmadge Owens Clark College 2nd Claude Oliver Tuskegee Institute third C Jackson, Morris Brown 4th Distance 22 feet 1 in.

Illini Trackmen, Big 10 Kings, Await National Meet June 21-22

Washington Post

By Jerry Liska

Chicago, June 2 (AP).—The University of Illinois, rushing to the fore as a national track power, today owned its second straight Big Ten outdoor championship and the world's fastest quarter-miler, Hustlin' Herb McKenley from the British West Indies.

McKenley's sensational 440 victory in 46.2 seconds, bettering the former world record of :46.4 and the Big Ten's 30-year-old mark of :47.4, highlighted the Illini's walk-away team triumph in the conference meet at Champaign, Ill., Saturday with 66¾ points.

Illinois also dethroned Michigan as the tennis champion, scoring 16 points in the conference meet at the University of Chicago field house, but the Wolverines managed to avert a title shut-out for the school by winning the Big Ten golf championship at Minneapolis with a team total of 1220 strokes. Monday

As the Illini spruced up for the National Collegiate Track and Field meet in Minneapolis June 21-22, they grabbed seven of the 14 conference events and produced three double winners—long-striding Mcenley in the 440 and 220; Bob Rehberg in the mole and half mile; and George Walker in the low and high hurdles. 6/3/46

Not Official Record Yet

The National A.A.U. and the International Amateur Athletic Federation must decide whether McKenley's 46.2 record will be written into the books, supplanting the 440 standard of 46.4 set by Ben Eastman of Stanford in 1932 and tied by Grover Klemmer of California in 1941. D. C.

McKenley had help for 300 yards from a 6.2 miles-per-hour wind, but this advantage was offset by chilly temperatures and a slight drizzle. Further demonstrating he was in rare form, the little Jamaican streaked the 220 route in 20.6 seconds, only 3/10ths of a second behind Jesse Owen's world mark.

McKenley also anchored the winning Illini mile relay team which accounted for asecond new conference record, being clocked in 3:12.4. Michigan set the former mark of 3:14.7 in 1939.

Second, some 35 points behind the Illini, was Ohio State with 31½. Once-powerful Michigan placed third with 25, followed by Minnesota with 22, Purdue with 18, Indiana with 15, Northwestern with 14, Wisconsin with 13¾, Iowa with 4, and Chicago with 0.

Only other double winner was Purdue's Bill Bangert, who copped the discus and shot-put, but Jamaican Lloyd La Beach of Wisconsin, grabbed individual scoring laurels with 12½ points on a 100-yard dash victory; a second in the 220, and a tie for second in the broad jump.

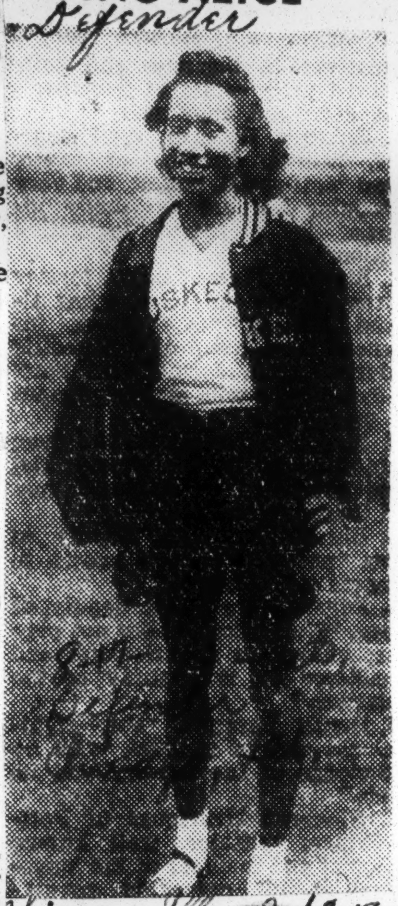
It w: team strength which gave Illinois the tennis title, because individual laurels went to Northwestern's Bobby Jake and Larry Daly. Jake won the No. 1 singles crown from denenwing champion Aris Franklin of Ohio State, and then teamed with Daly, No. 2 singles champion, to topple Franklin and Tom Mitchell for the top doubles crown. The Buckeye pair had won the two-man title in 1941, while Aris with his brother, Alex, were victors last season.

Ohio State and Northwestern, with 13½ points each, tied for second in the net showdown which was switched from Northwestern to the Chicago field because of rain. Chicago took third with 9, followed by defenwing Michigan with 6½, Minesota with 4, Purdue with 3, and Wisconsin with 1½.

Michigan dethroned Ohio State as the golf champion, 1220 strokes to 1237, but Iowa's Johnny Jacobs snared the individual title with a 72-hole total of 294. Northwestern placed third with 1247, Iowa fourth with 1248, Minnesota fifth with 1250, Indiana sixth with 1267, Wisconsin seventh with 1268, Purdue eighth with 1269, and Illinois ninth with 1270.

FLYING ALICE

Defender



Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-17-

Tuskegee Institute home economics student who won the 50-meters, the 100-meters and the high jump in the annual National Amateur Athletic Union's women's track and field championships in Buffalo, N. Y., on Sunday, Aug. 4. The day before in Montreal, Can., she won the 100-yard dash, the high jump and ran on the winning United States women's 440-yard relay team along with three white women. Tuskegee successfully defended its national honors in Buffalo.

Illini Trio Cops 5 Titles in West Point Track Meet

Afro American Sat 5-11-46 Baltimore, Md.

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Five track championships were annexed, two in record-breaking time, by a trio of mercury-heeled University of Illinois athletes here Saturday at the annual invitational quadrangular games sponsored by the West Point Military Academy.

Pacing the victorious Illini thinclads were Herb McKenley, who cracked the marks in the 220 and 440-yard dashes; George Walker, who swept the high and low hurdles series, and Billy Mathis, former Cardozo High School, Washington, D.C., luminary, who garnered the 100-yard sprint crown.

H. McKenley

The sparkling performances of these three led Illinois to the acquisition of 80 points and the meet championship.

McKenley, 1945 title-holder at 400 meters and winner of this year's Big Ten 440 championship, displayed astounding sprinting ability by speeding to the 220-yard crown in 20.8 seconds, to slice three-tenths of a second off the track record set by Wesley Wallace, white, of Fordham, in 1939.

He then returned to the oval a few minutes later to uncork a sizzling 440-yard title and chop off a half-second from the standard set by Roy Schiewe, white, of Notre Dame in 1942.

Observers were of the opinion McKenley's time would have been even faster had he been pressed. In the 440, he held a 15-yard lead at the wire, and in the 220 he was seven yards ahead of his nearest competitor. Sat 5-11-46

As if this were not enough, McKenley then captured his heat in the 100-yard trials in 9.9 seconds, but was yanked from the finals by Coach Leo Johnson.

Walker duplicated McKenley's double, though by no means as handily as the former Boston College star. The crack Illini timber-topper snatched the 120-yard high hurdles' crown in 14.8, beating Dartmouth's Allen Snyder and Joe Conley, both white. He also took down the 220-yard low hurdles' event in 21.7 seconds, heading Snyder and his Illini teammate, Don Shuman, white.

Mathis sped to the wire in 9.7 seconds in the 100-yard dash finals, in which he broke the tape ahead of teammate Jack Pierce and Army's Dick Newell, white. Walker was fourth in this test.

Coachman, Purifoy Pace Tuskegee Girls To Victory

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

By R. S. DARNABY

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Hattie Turner, of Glendale, O., brilliant all-around star, ended her phenomenal intercollegiate career by capturing the discus, javelin and baseball throws, in the colorful Eighteenth Annual Tuskegee Women's Track and Field Meet, held Friday, in the Tuskegee Institute's Alumni Bowl.

Alice Coachman, National AAU champion, won the 100-meter run and high jump. Little Purifoy, also well-known in national AAU circles, shattered the meet record in the 80-yard low hurdles, as the Tuskegee Institute girls piled up 64 points to win the Senior Division. Tennessee State College was second with 38 and the strong team from Prairie View University in Texas, finished third place with 21. Sat. 5-18-46

IN SETTING A NEW RECORD in the 80-yard low hurdles, Miss Purifoy broke the tape in 12.7 seconds. The second meet record was broken by Pauline Amey, Booker T. Washington high school, Atlanta, who tossed the shot-put 34 ft., 4 in., to erase the old mark set in 1938.

The crack relay combination from Prairie View University, composed of Birdie Edmundson, Dorothella White, Doris Countee, and Berdie Reese, scored an amazing upset in out-racing the Tuskegee relay team, made up of Bessie Haynes, Alice Cromwell, Theresa Manuel and Alice Coachman, in the heated 440-yard relay.

Tuskegee Institute High School won first place in the Junior Division with 31 points nosing out Camden Academy, who chalked up 30. Carver High School of Camden, Ala., finished third with 27, and Booker T. Washington High School of Atlanta was fourth with 25, and Sand-Fort Consolidated High School of Seale, Ala., scored 18 for fifth place.

Camden Academy of Camden, Ala., broke into the limelight in a big way in the Junior Division. Mable Walker of Camden Academy won the 50-meter run; Rosa Nettles, the broad jump; Juanita Wilson copped the 100-meter run, and Camden Academy was first in the junior 440-yard relay as a result of Mable Walker, Rosa Nettles, Anita Walker and Juanita Watson's superb performance. Tuskegee Institute High School held its own with Nell Jackson taking the 200-meter run, Mary Griggs, winning the 80-meter hurdles, and Bernice Nall topped the field in the discus throw.

Senior Events

50-METER—Won by Berdie Edmundson, Prairie View University; Bessie Haynes, Tuskegee Institute, second; Dorothella White, Prairie View University, third; Alice Crowell, Tuskegee Institute, fourth. Time—7.1.

100—METER RUN—Won by Alice Coachman, Tuskegee; Berdie Reese, Prairie View, second; Alfreda Rucker, Fort Valley, third; Reba Saunders, Prairie View, fourth. Time—12.2.

200-METER RUN—Won by Thelma Bracy, Tennessee State; Fannie Johnson, Tuskegee, second; Lucy McElroy, Tuskegee, third; Flora Walker, Fort Valley, fourth. Time—27.5.

80-METER HURDLES—Won by Lillie Purifoy, Tuskegee; Mary E. Wilson, Tennessee, second; Theresa Manuel, Tuskegee, third; Edyth Willibry, Fort Valley, fourth. Time—12.7. (New record.)

440-YARD RELAY—Won by Prairie View. (Birdie Edmundson, Dorethella White, Doris Countee, Berdie Reese); Tuskegee Institute, second; (Bessie Haynes, Alice Crowell, Theresa Manuel, Alice Coachman), second; Fort Valley, (Helen Raines, Wadnie Strong, Emma Spencer, Alfreda Rucker), third; Tennessee State, (Naomi Epps, Thelma Bracey, Emma Reed, Mary Ellen Wilson), fourth. Time—51.1.

RUNNING HIGH JUMP—Won by Alice Coachman, Tuskegee, 5 feet, 2 1-4 inches; Emma Reed, Tennessee, second; Joyce Dimitry, Tuskegee, third; Ruth Sharp, Tennessee, fourth.

RUNNING BROAD JUMP—Won by Fannie Johnson, Tuskegee, 16 feet, 8 inches; Mary Wilson, Tennessee State, second; Alice Crowell, Tuskegee, third; Berdie Edmundson, Prairie View, fourth.

DISCUS THROW—Won by Hattie Turner, Tuskegee, 99 feet, 1½ inches; Elaine Bradford, Tuskegee, second; Odessa Groves, Tennessee State, third; Helen Porter, Tennessee State, fourth.

SHOT PUT—Won by Elaine Bradford, Tuskegee, 38 feet, 7 inches; Verda Crawford, Prairie View, second; Helen Porter, Tennessee State, third; Hallie Brown, Prairie View, fourth.

JAVELIN THROW—Won by Hattie Turner, Tuskegee, 107 feet, ½ inches; Odessa Groves, Tennessee State, second; Helen Porter, Tennessee State, third.

BASEBALL THROW—Won by Thelma Bracey, Tennessee State, 82 feet, 9½ inches; Theresa Manuel, Tuskegee, second; Sara Hollingsworth, Tennessee State, third; Mamie Williams, Fort Valley, fourth.

BASEBALL THROW—Won by Hattie Turner, Tuskegee, 222 feet, 9½ inches; Naomi Epps, Tennessee State, second; Erma Spencer, Fort Valley, third; Lois Wilson, Tennessee State, fourth.

Junior Events

50-METER FINALS—Won by Mable Walker, Camden Academy; Gladys Tolley, Carver High, second; Betty Pope, Carver High, third; Doris Stubes, Tuskegee High, fourth. Time—7 seconds.

100-METER RUN—Won by Juanita Wilson, Camden Academy; Cora Fann, Tuskegee High, second; Gladys Tolley, Carver High, third; Betsy Abernathy, Trenholm High, fourth. Time: 13.2.

200-METER RUN—Won by Nell Jackson, Tuskegee High; Dannie Thompson, Camden Academy, second; Anita Watkins, Camden Academy, third; Leila Washington, Sand-Fort High, fourth. Time—27 seconds. Sat 5-18-46

80-METER HURDLES—Won by Mary Griggs, Tuskegee High; Lela Washington, Sand-Fort High, second; Norris Stephens, Booker T. Washington, Atlanta, third; Berdie Johnson, Booker T. Washington, Atlanta, fourth. Time—13.9.

440-YARD RELAY—Won by Camden Academy, (Mable Walker, Rosa Nettles, Anita Walker, Juanita Watson); Tuskegee High, (Mary Griggs, Loretha McDonald, Cora Fann, Nell Jackson), second; Carver High, (Betty Pope, Evelyn Lawler, Doris Wofford, Gladys Talley), third. Time—52.7.

RUNNING HIGH JUMP—Won by Evelyn Lawler, Carver High, 4 feet, 5 3-4 inches; Marie Benford, Carver High, second; Juanita Rogers, Booker T. Washington, Atlanta, third.

RUNNING BROAD JUMP—Won by Rosie Nettles, Camden Academy, 15 feet, 1½ inches; Juanita Rogers, Booker T. Washington, Atlanta, second; Betty Pope, Carver High, third; Dannie Thompson, Camden Academy, fourth.

DISCUS THROW—Won by Bernice Nall, Tuskegee High, 61 feet, 7 inches; Mary Bellamy, Sand-Fort High, second; Hazel Bellamy, Sand-Fort High, third; Pauline Amey, Booker T. Washington, Atlanta, fourth.

SHOT-PUT—Won by Pauline Amey, Booker T. Washington, Atlanta, 34 feet, 4 inches; Katherine Smith, Tuskegee High, second; Rosa Nettles, Camden Academy, third; Mable Walker, Camden Academy, fourth. Sat. 5-18-46

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BASKETBALL THROW—Won by Betty Pope, Carver High, 84 feet, 6 inches; Catherine Smith, Tuskegee High, second; Leila Washington, Sand-Fort High, third; Pauline Amey, Booker T. Washing-

Illini Trackmen, Big 10 Kings, Await National Meet June 21-22

Washington Post

By Jerry Liska

Chicago, June 2 (AP).—The University of Illinois, rushing to the fore as a national track power, today owned its second straight Big Ten outdoor championship and the world's fastest quarter-miler, Hustlin' Herb McKenley from the British West Indies.

McKenley's sensational 440 victory in 46.2 seconds, bettering the former world record of :46.4 and the Big Ten's 30-year-old mark of :47.4, highlighted the Illini's walk-away team triumph in the conference meet at Champaign, Ill., Saturday with 66¾ points.

Illinois also dethroned Michigan as the tennis champion, scoring 16 points in the conference meet at the University of Chicago field house, but the Wolverines managed to avert a title shut-out for the school by winning the Big Ten golf championship at Minneapolis with a team total of 1220 strokes. *Monday*

As the Illini spruced up for the National Collegiate Track and Field meet in Minneapolis June 21-22, they grabbed seven of the 14 conference events and produced three double winners—long-striding Mcenley in the 440 and 220; Bob Rehberg in the mole and half mile; and George Walker in the low and high hurdles. *6/3/46*

Not Official Record Yet

The National A.A.U. and the International Amateur Athletic Federation must decide whether McKenley's 46.2 record will be written into the books, supplanting the 440 standard of 46.4 set by Ben Eastman of Stanford in 1932 and tied by Grover Klemmer of California in 1941. *D. C.*

McKenley had help for 300 yards from a 6.2 miles-per-hour wind, but this advantage was offset by chilly temperatures and a slight drizzle. Further demonstrating he was in rare form, the little Jamaican streaked the 220 route in 20.6 seconds, only 3/10ths of a second behind Jesse Owen's world mark.

McKenley also anchored the winning Illini mile relay team which accounted for asecond new conference record, being clocked in 3:12.4. Michigan set the former mark of 3:14.7 in 1939.

Second, some 35 points behind the Illini, was Ohio State with 31½. Once-powerful Michigan placed third with 25, followed by Minnesota with 22, Purdue with 18, Indiana with 15, Northwestern with 14, Wisconsin with 13¾, Iowa with 4, and Chicago with 0.

Only other double winner was Purdue's Bill Bangert, who copped the discus and shot-put, but Jamaican Lloyd La Beach of Wisconsin, grabbed individual scoring laurels with 12½ points on a 100-yard dash victory; a second in the 220, and a tie for second in the broad jump.

It wa team strength which gave Illinois the tennis title, because individual laurels went to Northwestern's Bobby Jake and Larry Daly. Jake won the No. 1 singles crown from denenwing champion Aris Franklin of Ohio State, and then teamed with Daly, No. 2 singles champion, to topple Franklin and Tom Mitchell for the top doubles crown. The Buckeye pair had won the two-man title in 1941, while Aris with his brother, Alex, were victors last season.

Ohio State and Northwestern, with 13½ points each, tied for second in the net showdown which was switched from Northwestern to the Chicago field because of rain. Chicago took third with 9, followed by defenwing Michigan with 6½, Minesota with 4, Purdue with 3, and Wisconsin with 1½.

Michigan dethroned Ohio State as the golf champion, 1220 strokes to 1237, but Iowa's Johnny Jacobs snared the individual title with a 72-hole total of 294. Northwestern placed third with 1247, Iowa fourth with 1248, Minnesota fifth with 1250, Indiana sixth with 1267, Wisconsin seventh with 1268, Purdue eighth with 1269, and Illinois ninth with 1270.

FLYING ALICE

Defender

Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-17-

Tuskegee Institute home economics student who won the 50-meters, the 100-meters and the high jump in the annual National Amateur Athletic Union's women's track and field championships in Buffalo, N. Y., on Sunday, Aug. 4. The day before in Montreal, Can., she won the 100-yard dash, the high jump and ran on the winning United States women's 440-yard relay team along with three white women. Tuskegee successfully defended its national honors in Buffalo.

Illini Trio Cops 5 Titles in West Point Track Meet

Afro American Sat 5-11-46 Baltimore, Md.

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Five track championships were annexed, two in record-breaking time, by a trio of mercury-heeled University of Illinois athletes here Saturday at the annual invitational quadrangular games sponsored by the West Point Military Academy.

H. McKenley

Pacing the victorious Illini thinclads were Herb McKenley, who cracked the marks in the 220 and 440-yard dashes; George Walker, who swept the high and low hurdles series, and Billy Mathis, former Cardozo High School, Washington. D.C., luminary, who garnered the 100-yard sprint crown.

The sparkling performances of these three led Illinois to the acquisition of 80 points and the meet championship.

McKenley, 1945 title-holder at 400 meters and winner of this year's Big Ten 440 championship, displayed astounding sprinting ability by speeding to the 220-yard crown in 20.8 seconds, to slice three-tenths of a second off the track record set by Wesley Wallace, white, of Fordham, in 1939.

He then returned to the oval a few minutes later to uncork a sizzling 440-yard title and chop off a half-second from the standard set by Roy Schiewe, white, of Notre Dame in 1942.

Observers were of the opinion McKenley's time would have been even faster had he been pressed. In the 440, he held a 15-yard lead at the wire, and in the 220 he was seven yards ahead of his nearest competitor. *Sat 5-11-46*

As if this were not enough, McKenley then captured his heat in the 100-yard trials in 9.9 seconds, but was yanked from the finals by Coach Leo Johnson.

Walker duplicated McKenley's double, though by no means as handily as the former Boston College star. The crack Illini timber-topper snatched the 120-yard high hurdles' crown in 14.8, beating Dartmouth's Allen Snyder and Joe Conley, both white. He also took down the 220-yard low hurdles' event in 21.7 seconds, heading Snyder and his Illini teammate, Don Shuman, white.

Mathis sped to the wire in 9.7 seconds in the 100-yard dash finals, in which he broke the tape ahead of teammate Jack Pierce and Army's Dick Newell, white. Walker was fourth in this test.

Coachman, Purifoy Pace Tuskegee Girls To Victory

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill

By R. S. DARNABY

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Hattie Turner, of Glendale, O., brilliant all-around star, ended her phenomenal intercollegiate career by capturing the discus, javelin and baseball throws, in the colorful Eighteenth Annual Tuskegee Women's Track and Field Meet, held Friday, in the Tuskegee Institute's Alumni Bowl.

Alice Coachman, National AAU champion, won the 100-meter run and high jump. Little Purifoy, also well-known in national AAU circles, shattered the meet record in the 80-yard low hurdles, as the Tuskegee Institute girls piled up 64 points to win the Senior Division. Tennessee State College was second with 38 and the strong team from Prairie View University in Texas, finished third place with 21. *Sat. 5-18-46*

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IN SETTING A NEW RECORD in the 80-yard low hurdles, Miss Purifoy broke the tape in 12.7 seconds. The second meet record was broken by Pauline Amey, Booker T. Washington high school, Atlanta, who tossed the shot-put 34 ft., 4 in., to erase the old mark set in 1938.

The crack relay combination from Prairie View University, composed of Birdie Edmundson, Dorothella White, Doris Countee, and Berdie Reese, scored an amazing upset in out-racing the Tuskegee relay team, made up of Bessie Haynes, Alice Cromwell, Theresa Manuel and Alice Coachman, in the heated 440-yard relay.

Tuskegee Institute High School won first place in the Junior Division with 31 points nosing out Camden Academy, who chalked up 30. Carver High School of Camden, Ala., finished third with 27, and Booker T. Washington High School of Atlanta was fourth with 25, and Sand-Fort Consolidated High School of Seale, Ala., scored 18 for fifth place.

Camden Academy of Camden, Ala., broke into the limelight in a big way in the Junior Division. Mable Walker of Camden Academy won the 50-meter run; Rosa Nettles, the broad jump; Juanita Wilson copped the 100-meter run, and Camden Academy was first in the junior 440-yard relay as a result of Mable Walker, Rosa Nettles, Anita Walker and Juanita Watson's superb performance. Tuskegee Institute High School held its own with Nell Jackson taking the 200-meter run, Mary Griggs, winning the 80-meter hurdles, and Bernice Nall topped the field in the discus throw.

Senior Events

50-METER—Won by Berdie Edmundson, Prairie View University; Bessie Haynes, Tuskegee Institute, second; Dorothella White, Prairie View University, third; Alice Crowell, Tuskegee Institute, fourth. Time—7.1.

100-METER RUN—Won by Alice Coachman, Tuskegee; Berdie Reese, Prairie View, second; Alfreda Rucker, Fort Valley, third; Reba Saunders, Prairie View, fourth. Time—12.2.

200-METER RUN—Won by Thelma Bracy, Tennessee State; Fannie Johnson, Tuskegee, second; Lucy McElroy, Tuskegee, third; Flora Walker, Fort Valley, fourth. Time—27.5.

80-METER HURDLES—Won by Lillie Purifoy, Tuskegee; Mary E. Wilson, Tennessee, second; Theresa Manuel, Tuskegee, third; Edyth Willibry, Fort Valley, fourth. Time—12.7. (New record.)

440-YARD RELAY—Won by Prairie View. (Birdie Edmundson, Dorethella White, Doris Countee, Berdie Reese); Tuskegee Institute, second; (Bessie Haynes, Alice Crowell, Theresa Manuel, Alice Coachman), second; Fort Valley, (Helen Raines, Wadnie Strong, Emma Spencer, Alfreda Rucker), third; Tennessee State, (Naomi Epps, Thelma Bracey, Emma Reed, Mary Ellen Wilson), fourth. Time—51.1.

RUNNING HIGH JUMP—Won by Alice Coachman, Tuskegee, 5 feet, 2 1-4 inches; Emma Reed, Tennessee, second; Joyce Dimitry, Tuskegee, third; Ruth Sharp, Tennessee, fourth.

RUNNING BROAD JUMP—Won by Fannie Johnson, Tuskegee, 16 feet, 8 inches; Mary Wilson, Tennessee State, second; Alice Crowell, Tuskegee, third; Berdie Edmundson, Prairie View, fourth.

DISCUS THROW—Won by Hattie Turner, Tuskegee, 99 feet, 1½ inches; Elaine Bradford, Tuskegee, second; Odessa Groves, Tennessee State, third; Helen Porter, Tennessee State, fourth.

SHOT PUT—Won by Elaine Bradford, Tuskegee, 38 feet, 7 inches; Verda Crawford, Prairie View, second; Helen Porter, Tennessee State, third; Hallie Brown, Prairie View, fourth.

JAVELIN THROW—Won by Hattie Turner, Tuskegee, 107 feet, ½ inches; Odessa Groves, Tennessee State, second; Helen Porter, Tennessee State, third.

BASEBALL THROW—Won by Thelma Bracey, Tennessee State, 82 feet, 9½ inches; Theresa Manuel, Tuskegee, second; Sara Hollingsworth, Tennessee State, third; Mamie Williams, Fort Valley, fourth.

BASEBALL THROW—Won by Hattie Turner, Tuskegee, 222 feet, 9½ inches; Naomi Epps, Tennessee State, second; Erma Spencer, Fort Valley, third; Lois Wilson, Tennessee State, fourth.

Junior Events

50-METER FINALS—Won by Mable Walker, Camden Academy; Gladys Tolley, Carver High, second; Betty Pope, Carver High, third; Doris Stubes, Tuskegee High, fourth. Time—7 seconds.

100-METER RUN—Won by Juanita Wilson, Camden Academy; Cora Fann, Tuskegee High, second; Gladys Tolley, Carver High, third; Betsy Abernathy, Trenholm High, fourth. Time: 13.2.

200-METER RUN—Won by Nell Jackson, Tuskegee High; Dannie Thompson, Camden Academy, second; Anita Watkins, Camden Academy, third; Leila Washington, Sand-Fort, High, fourth. Time—27 seconds.

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BASKETBALL THROW—Won by Betty Pope, Carver High, 84 feet, 6 inches; Catherine Smith, Tuskegee High, second; Leila Washington, Sand-Fort High, third; Pauline Amey, Booker T. Washing-

ton, Atlanta, fourth.
BASEBALL THROW—Won by Juanita Rogers, Booker T. Washington, Atlanta, 197 feet, 8½ inches; Betty Pope, Carver High, second; Rubye Sawyer, Booker T. Washington, Atlanta, third; Juanita Watson, Camden Academy, fourth.

3 Illinois Stars Help Cop 3 Penn Relay Titles

Baltimore, Md.
Afro American

Mathis, McKenley, Walker Stand Out in Philly Games; Lincoln, Morgan Score

Sat 5-4-46

PHILADELPHIA.

A cold, penetrating wind, dampened by intermittent rains which bore a strong suspicion of sleet, held the supper hand here Saturday Saturday, but a red hot Uniday, but a red hot University of Illinois relay team proved a worthy rival for the attention of the 30,000 spectators who watched the closing day's program of the 52nd annual Penn Relay Carnival.

The shivering customers, who huddled together far back in the stands of wind-swept Franklin Field, were given a heart-warming by the feats of the Illini team, headed by Herb McKenley, Georgie Walker, Billy Mathis, Marc Gonzales and Bob Rehberg, the latter two white.

For the stellar outfit from Champaign came within 17 inches of sweeping the four relay events, th ethird team to do so in the 52-year history of these games.

McKenley Fouls, Relents

Illinois had copped the 440-yard and sprint medley championships on Friday and was on her way to the half-mile title when McKenley, who anchored all the teams, committed a violation which deprived them of that crown. In his anxiety to get going, McKenley overran the baton-passing zone and was a foot and a half in foul territory when he took the pole from his teammate, Jack Pierce.

This resulted in a disqualification and prevented the Illini from making a clean sweep, as it later won the classic mile diadem on the heels of a sparkling 46.9 anchor quarter by the peeved McKenley.

When McKenley ripped off his amazing mile-relay anchor leg to give his team an 19 yard margin at the finish, it marked a blazing finish to the Illini's first appearance here in 19 years. Since 1927, the westerners have passed up the Penn games for the Drake Relays at Des Moines, Ia.

The performance of the Illinois machine highlighted a card which saw William (Bill) Carter, IC4-A indoor sprint champion in 1942 while at Pittsburgh, annex the 100-yard dash feature, and Fred Johnson, an unsung Marine from Camp LeJeune, N.C., take down the broad jump. Sat 5-4-46

Two of 6 Champions

Carter and Johnson were two of the six individual champions crowned. The former beat Charley Jupiter of Howard University and Illinois' Mathis in that order, in the highly-creditable time of 9.8 seconds on a heavy track. Bob Fenimore, white, of Oklahoma Aggies football fame, was fourth.

Johnson leaped 23 feet, 1¼ inches to best Herb Douglass of Pittsburgh, 1945 national outdoor champion, by approximately six inches. Homer Gillis of NYU finished third ahead of Ralph Tate, white, also of Oklahoma.

Lincoln University rooters came in for their innings during the Saturday afternoon program, the Lion quartet stepping off a 3:27.7 mile to garner the spoils in its

HERB McKENLEY

college relay competition.

The Orange and Blue four of Macio Thomas, Walker Bacon, James Law and Roscoe Browne virtually ran their rivals into the ground as Browne romped a 48.8 final quarter to win by 8 yards over Wayne University's quartet.

The latter, aided by Dick Waskin's (white) third leg victory over Law, started the gun lap with 11 yards of beclouded daylight between Wayne and its Lincoln pursuer.

But Browne set out after the flying Dick Ford, white, gained on him gradually until, with long, easy strides, he pushed past the Wayne star at the far turn. Ford tried hard to rally but could not menace the winner.

Not as spectacular, but certainly as exciting, was Morgan State College's triumph in the first race of the three class competitions.

Ernest Bradley gave the Baltimore combination a comfortable lead which was held throughout the second and third legs by Dave Williams and Matthews Jefferson. However, freshman Lone Hodges had a terrific fight on his hands withstanding the bid of Howard Univresity's anchor man, Dick Lee.

Lee clos edthe gap with a startling burst of speed and pressed through the stretch breathing on the neck of the Bear speedster. Believed by some to be the stronger of the two as they drove toward the tape, Lee spilled in the track just as victory seemed but 20 yards away and well within his grasp.

With Howard out of the race, Hampton finished second to the Baltimore contingent.

West Chester Teachers College of Pennsylvania was third in the other class competition, bowing to the victorious Seton Hall four and to Fort Dix, N.J., which finished second.

The quartets of Union and Virginia State were out of the money in their heats of the class competition.

Lincoln returned to the track a few minutes later to cop fourth in the Class B mile relay championship of America, decided on a time basis and won by Colgate's all-white team. Morgan was unplaced in this event.

Approximately 3,400 thinclads, 400 of them non-white, participated in the meet. This represented a 40 per cent increase over the entry list in 1945, the banner wartime year. Sat 5-4-46

Dillard Hurt

Some of the runners were unable to get the kinks out of their muscles in the snappy wind and several teams saw their athletes pull tendons at vital moments.

After Riley McDonald and Malvin Whitfield had helped put Ohio State in second place in the two-mile relay, they saw their anchor man, Bill Clifford, white, limp off after running one lap.

Harrison Dillard, Baldwin-Wallace's ace hurdler, had hurt his right leg a couple days before the meet and although he won his heat in the hurdles the leg gave away in the finals after he had taken the lead at 30 yards, and Dillard finished fourth.

But pulled ligaments are no more disastrous on the cinderpaths than ignorance. Little Willie Logan, anchor man for the James Rhoads School, proved this.

He Didn't Know

Participating in the Philadelphia Elementary Scholo 300-yard shuttle relay championship, Jones was in third place when he started running, but he immediately set the crowd yelling with a burst of speed that shot him into the lead.

Apparently unaware of the art which sportswriters euphemistically call "breasting the tape," Willie thought he was supposed to duck under the string and girded to do so. The action cost him a precious second and by the time he reached the finish line Paul Di Napoli, white, had hit the tape.

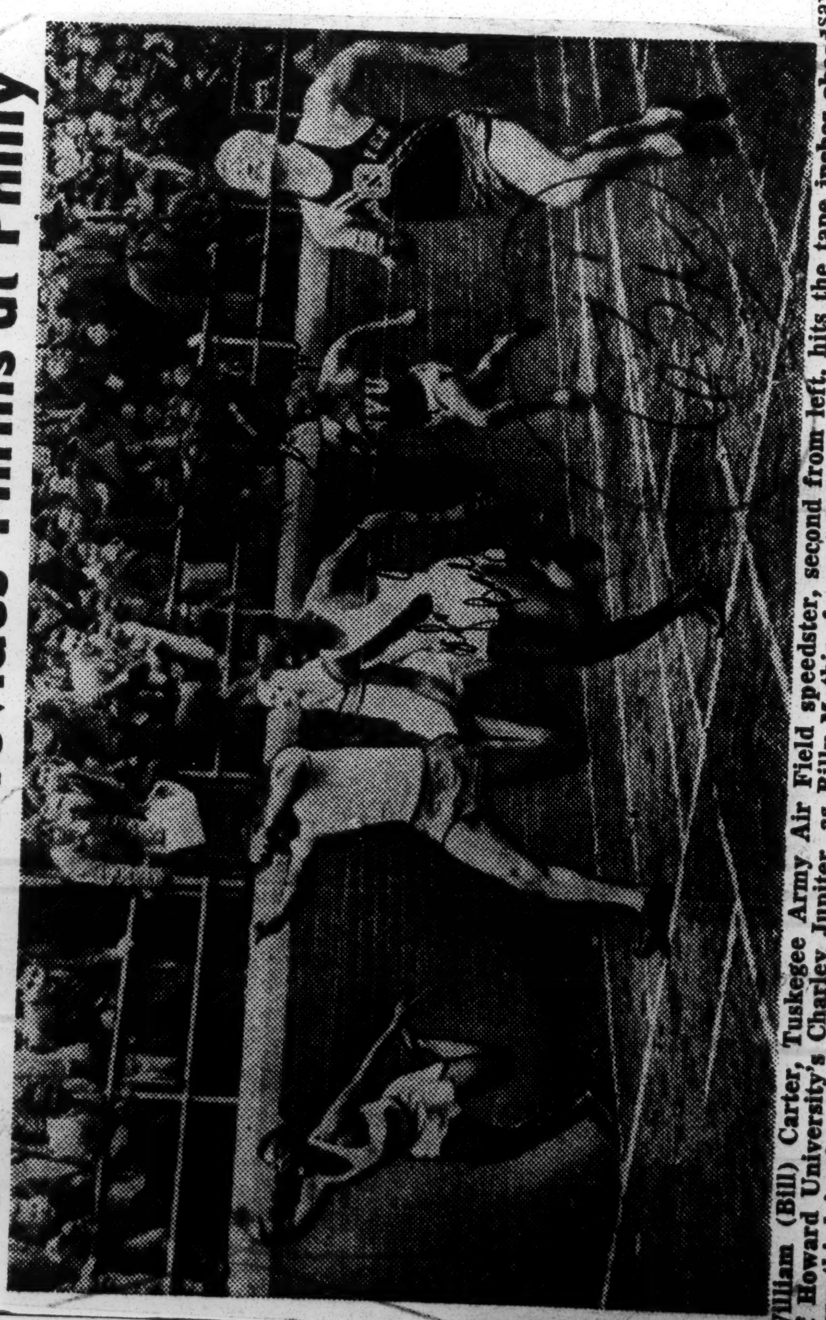
Little Willie explained that no one had told him to break the tape. Now that he knows, fans who saw him put on his sprint say one may hear more of Willie.

Most tragic happening of the Friday program was the failure of the Cardozo High (Washington, D.C.) foursome to add to their indoor championship when Captain Clarence Turner pulled up with a lame leg as he neared the tape in the High School Quarter Mile chamiponship event.

The Cardozo team, David Clark, Cohen Cosby, Marcellus Boston and Turner, had reeled off a 44.1 heat to lead the qualifiers and, oddly enough, the time of the winning Cranford (New Jersey) team was the same. The District team placed third. Sat 5-4-46

Dick Brown and Herbert Thomas ran third and fourth, respectively, for Cranford. It was a yeoman stint by Thomas that gave the Jerseyites their win although he never would have caught the flying Turner if he had not suffered the pulled muscle.

Sprint Finish Provides Thrills at Philly



William (Bill) Carter, Tuskegee Army Air Field speedster, second from left, hits the tape inches ahead of Howard University's Charley Jupiter, as Billy Mathis, former Cardozo High School ace, extreme left, runs third in the sprint feature of the Penn Relays at Philadelphia Saturday. Bob Fenimore, white, of Oklahoma Aggies, was fourth. The time was 9.8 seconds.

Hawaii Seen as Democratic Isle

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Jesse Owens Speaks to University Group

Sat. 10-14-46

HONOLULU — (ANP)—This city was recently called the one place that represents real democracy by Jesse Owens, world's fastest track star, who was interviewed in the Honolulu stadium, where he is currently giving free instructions to youth of all nationalities.

Owens, on tour in the Pacific, has appeared before many civic groups and talked at the University of Hawaii, where he emphasized the importance of developing the intellect with athletic prowess.

Praises Crescents

During the interview, Owens praised the Cincinnati Crescents, saying, "I have seen no better co-ordination and teamwork among any players anywhere. They could easily become the best team in America."

The track star believes that the field of sports offers a good opportunity to better race relations. "But all too few shirk the responsibility," he stated.

Owens, who is a capable speaker, as well as a star athlete, recently won an 80-yard dash with

a horse here before a crowd of 8,000.

631 1946 General

Illinois Star Wins 2 NCAA Titles

Herb McKenley's long, powerful stride (right) carried him around first turn of the 440 in front at NCAA games in Minneapolis Saturday. McKenley won the event in 47.5 seconds as Illinois romped to the title with 78 points for the meet, leaving So. California far in the rear with 42.85 points. NYU was third with 40.

McKenley Wins But His Time Is Slow

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., — Herb McKenley, the University of Illinois star quartermiler who broke the world record during the Big Ten outdoor meet in May, ran a slow 220-yard run in the City of Cambridge Centennial games in Harvard stadium on July 6. His time was 21.3 seconds.

McKenley ran a 48.5 seconds quartermile around two turns—2.5 seconds off his own mark.

Jesse Owens beats George Case in match race

CLEVELAND—If he isn't still the "fastest human", there still aren't a handful of guys who can pick 'em up and lay 'em down any faster than Jesse Owens. Last week in a match race against the Cleveland Indians' George Case, the fastest thing in organized baseball, Owens ran the 100-yard dash in :9.9, four-fifths of a second off his own world's record. The exhibition took place between games of the Cleveland-St. Louis doubleheader. Prize: $1,000.

AAU to Weigh World Records

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (CNS) — When the 58th annual convention of the Amateur Athletic Union meets here on Dec. 6, 7 and 8, the record shattering performances of two athletes will be proposed for world acceptance.

Among the four athletes whose names will be inscribed upon the world honor roles are the names of Harrison Dillard who was clocked at 0:22.5 in the 220 low hurdles, and long-striding Herbert McKenley who set a mark of 0:29.7 for 300 yards outdoors, and 0:48.1 for 440 yards indoors on a dirt track.

Woodruff Accepts NYC Welfare Post

NEW YORK (ANP) — Johnny Woodruff, former Olympic track star whose records for the 800-meter and 800-yard dash still stand, has joined the staff of the New York City Department of Welfare.

John Woodruff

Woodruff, a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh where he set the world record of 1:50 for 800 meters, was a member of the U.S. team in the 1936 Olympics at Berlin.

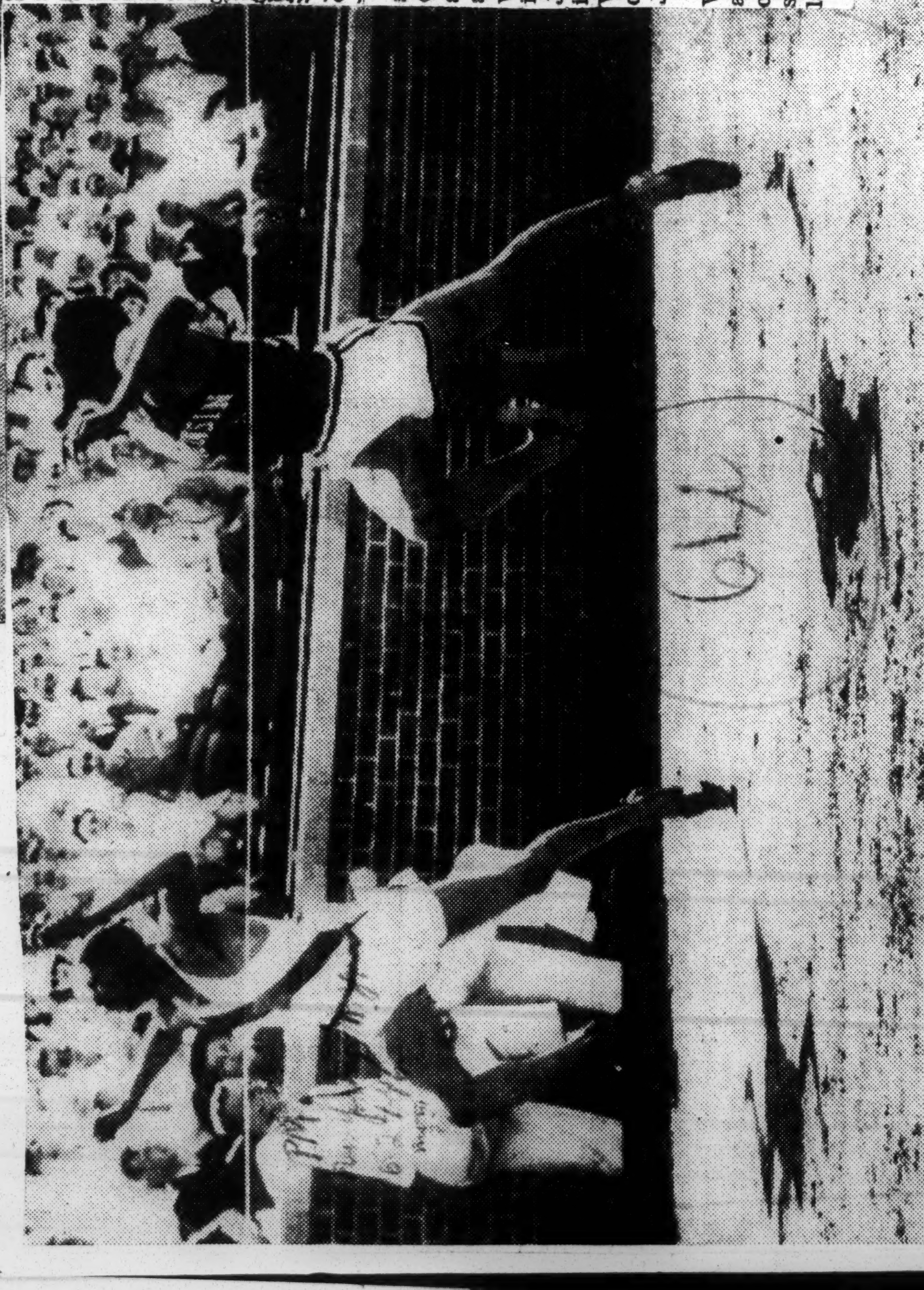
He served as a lieutenant and captain in World War 2, seeing duty in Hawaii with a Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft battery.

He is married and the father of a 10-month-old girl.

JOHNNY WOODRUFF is now a social worker with the New York City Department of Welfare. Talk about the fight against Jimcrow and its white supremacy song—what a shellacking Johnny dealt it in the '36 Berlin Olympics! He and Jesse Owens sure had Hitler hanging on. That was when lanky Woodruff sped to the 800-meter championship. As a matter of fact, Johnny's record for the 800-meter dash still stands.

He's at the tail-end of his glorious track career, is long John Woodruff. Now 31, he'll take a crack at some indoor races this winter and then hang up his cleats. Yes, it's been a long and star-studded career for Johnny ever since he started racking up new records as a schoolboy wonder at Connellsville High School in Pennsylvania and later at the University of Pittsburgh.

Good luck to you Johnny, in your job as social worker.



McKenley (left) again breaks the tape in front as he nips Lloyd LaBeach, of Wisconsin U., in the 220, taking the sprint with a time of 21.3 seconds. McKenley is expected to run at Randall's Island in a special meet a week from tomorrow.

THE WINNER SETTING THE PACE IN N. C. A. A. 440

Herb McKenley (right) leading Wells DeLoach of Southern California and Desmond Kidd of Texas in heat of the quarter-mile run at Minneapolis. The Illinois ace scored in 0:47.5. Associated Press Wirephoto

ILLINOIS CAPTURES TRACK MEET TITLE

So. California Is Second, With N. Y. U. in Third Place in N. C. A. A. Competition

By The Associated Press.

MINNEAPOLIS, June 22— Coach Leo Johnson's Illinois squad, propelled by four firsts including a double triumph by the Jamaica-born Herb McKenley, today galloped off with the National Collegiate Athletic Association track crown with an overwhelming total of 78 points.

McKenley, previously described by Johnson as worn out with the rest of the Illini squad by Big Ten and Central Collegiate title conquests, romped to victory in the 440 and 220-yard runs.

Southern California, billed as a co-favorite with Illinois, had an unimpressive second-place total of 42.85 points. It was one of the poorest N C A A showings by the Trojans, who were seeking their thirteenth title. They took wartime leave of the meet in 1943 after winning nine straight.

The meet, despite a dry, fast track at Minnesota's Memorial Stadium, failed to produce any new N C A A records, although a stadium mark fell when Harrison Dillard of Baldwin-Wallace, the meet's only other double winner, skimmed the 220 low hurdles in 23 seconds flat. The record was 0:23.3, set by Fred Wolcott of Rice in 1938.

Scores in 10 Events

The Illini piled up points in all ten events in which they were entered, with only seven performers doing the trick. The victors were not entered in the shot-put, javelin, discus or broad jump.

Southern California, which barely edged New York University for second, collapsed when the Trojan distance ace, Roland Sink, previously unbeaten at a mile or two miles in high school or college, was soundly whipped by Illinois' Bob Rehberg in the mile.

Sink, who staggered across fourth after setting the mile pace for two laps, was scratched from the two-mile run, when the Trojan cause appeared hopeless.

New York University, with two-miler Frank Martin emerged as one of the two successful defending titleholders, and Bernie Mayer, winning the shot-put, was third with 40 points.

The rest of the contingent of forty schools which scored points was scattered far behind, headed by Baldwin-Wallace, with 20 points on Dillard's double victory.

Dillard, who bobbed over the 120 highs in a creditable 0:14.1, dethroned the defending champion, George Walker of Illinois in both hurdles events.

Wiesner Takes High Jump

The other successful defending champion was Ken Wiesner of Marquette, co-titlist in the high jump, who won with a leap of 6 feet 8⅜ inches. Utah's Fred Sheffield, who tied Wiesner last year, deadlocked Tom Scofield of Kansas for second at 6 feet 7⅜ inches.

McKenley, who was clocked in a world record-breaking 0:46.2 three weeks ago, misjudged his quarter-mile pace today, fading over the final 200 yards, and nearly lost to Dave Bolen of Southern University. The Illini star was clocked in 0:47.6. He came back for an eyelash victory over Lloyd La Beach, a fellow Jamaican representing Wisconsin, in the 220-yard dash in 0:21.3.

Southern California also flopped in the pole vault where its two 14-foot performers, Bob Hart and Tex Winter, were also rans to Northwestern's Billy Moore, who cleared 13 feet 8 inches to triumph.

Another Trojan setback came in the shot-put where Wilbur Thompson of the Trojans was second to Mayer after producing the best qualifying mark yesterday.

It was a field day for the Mid-West which captured nine of the fourteen individual championships. In addition to Illinois' four firsts, including a surprise triumph in the 100-yard dash by Illini Bill Mathis over La Beach, Mid-Western victories came on a discus success by Fortune Gordien of Minnesota; Moore's pole vault victory; Wiesner's successful high jump defense; and Dillard's double hurdle killing.

Lewis Smith of Virginia Union scored for the South with an impressive half-mile triumph in 1:52.6.

The Southwest had a winner in John Robertson of Texas, who took the broad jump with a leap of 24 feet 10½ inches, while the East grabbed two titles, thanks to New York U.'s Martin and Mayer.

With Southern California's complete blackout, the only Far West first was recorded by javelin thrower Bob Likins of little San Jose State with a toss of 198 feet 10½ inches.

One other defending champion was dethroned when Bill Bangert of Purdue, who won the event for Missouri last year, failed to qualify in the discus.

McKenley and Dillard shared scoring laurels with 20 points each, while La Beach had 17 with seconds in the 100 and 220 and a sixth in the broad jump.

Negro Athletes Still Dominate Track Events

Washington Tribune 2-12-46 Washington, D.C.

By EDWIN B. HENDERSON

Colored track and field athletes still hold a high place in the record annals of the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States. Six of the twenty-four athletes pictured in the 1946 annual handbook are colored athletes.

Joshua Williamson, Elmore Harris, Barney Ewell, William Mathis and Alice Coachman are the pictured athletes.

The following national senior indoor track and field meet champions in New York City last February were: (1) 60 yards, Barney Ewell; (2) 600 yards, Elmore Harris; (3) 60 yards, high hurdles, Ed Dugger; running broad jump, Barney Ewell; pole vault, tied for first place, Joshua Williamson. In the high school championships, William Mathis won the 60 yard dash.

The women held their indoor national championship in Buffalo, New York in 1945 and as usual the Tuskegee girls won the championship, by 28 points to the nearest other score of 12½. Alice Coachman won the 50 yard dash and the running high jump. Tuskegee's girls won the 440-yard relay and many seconds, thirds and fourths.

Outdoor events will be published in the 1947 handbook.

Negro athletes named on the 1944 Men's All-American Track and Field Team were: 60 yards, Edward Conwell; 100 yards, Claude Young; 440 yards, Elmore Harris; 880 yards, Robert Kelly; 60 yards, Edward Dugger; 60 yard low hurdles, Edward Dugger; Barney Ewell, running broad jump; Don Barksdale, hop, step and jump; Eulace Peacock, pentathlon.

The All-American Women's Track and Field Team for 1944 includes: Alice Coachman, 50 meters; Alice Coachman, running high jump; Hattie Turner, discus throw and baseball throw; Lillie Purefoy, 80 meter hurdles; and Alice Coachman teamed with Stella Walsh (white), Kay Geary (white) and Elizabeth Peel (white) on the 400 meter relay team.

Athletes are short in the distance events. If college and high school coaches were to put a premium on developing distance runners and cross country teams, it is safe to bet that colored athletes would dominate the distance fields as well. Since colored boys are the outstanding sprint and middle distance runners, many white papers, especially in the South, feature the distance champs or the pole vaulting events, in which we have not had too many performers.

Although Ed Conwell was first with 36 points and Ed Dugger was nominated by the jury of sports writers, second with 26 points in the Milrose games, the Washington daily papers and Southern papers pictured Les Mitchell doing one of the slowest miles in recent years, and gave no picture space to Conwell, Dugger, Harris or Ewell. If we had another Dixon, they would have to run to a pole vaulter or some mediocre performer to escape the picture of some Negro lad romping to victory.

TUSKEGEE WOMEN KEEP TRACK TITLE

Tues 4-2-46

Score 28 Points in Senior A.A.U. Games—Miss Coachman Only Double Victor

CLEVELAND, March 31 (AP)—The cinder squad of Tuskegee (Ala.) Institute, paced by its star sprinter, Miss Alice Coachman, successfully defended its women's senior National A. A. U. indoor track title tonight by rolling up 28 points in the annual meet.

The Cleveland Polish Olympic W. A. C. captured second place with 16½ points as its veteran star, Miss Stella Walsh tallied 10 markers to tie Miss Coachman for top individual honors. Philadelphia's Turner Club trailed Cleveland with 14 tallies.

Miss Coachman was the only double winner of the meet as she easily defeated Miss Kathryn Geary of the Philadelphia Turner Club to triumph in 6.4 seconds in the 50-yard dash. She leaped 4 feet 6⅞ inches to capture the high-jump.

Miss Marian Twining of Philadelphia hurled the basketball 101 feet 4¼ inches for a victory in that event and sparked the Turners to a 4-yard victory in the 440-yard relay.

Colored Track Stars Win Honors In Mellrose Games

Atlanta Daily World 2-10-46

NEW YORK, (ANP)—Thirteen Negro athletes took part Saturday night in the 39th annual Mellrose games in Madison Square Garden here.

Reginald Pearman, New York Pioneer Club, crossed the finish line behind the winner, Fred Sickinger, in the 880 yard run. The time was 1:58.2. The 60-yard dash was won by Ed Conwell, Shore A. C., Long Branch, N. J., in :06.2, while Barney Ewell, of Camp Kilmer, was second and Thomas A Carey, New York Pioneer Club, placed third.

Ed Dugger of Dayton, O., won the 60-yard high hurdles in :07.3 while Elmoro Harris, Shore A. C., won the Mel Sheppard 600-yard run. The time was 1:14.3. James Herbert, New York Grand Street boys, and Maurice Callender, New York university, came in second and third respectively. Callender was also a member of the NYU team that won the one mile college relay in 3:26.1.

2-10-46

Stanton Callender was a member of the New York university team that won the two-mile college really in 8.04.4. The one-mile AAU relay was won by the New York Pioneer club in 3.27. The team was composed of Thompson, McCants, Taylor and Pearman.

Paul Robeson, Jr., Cornell university, tied with John Vislocky New York A.C., and Mathias Kashuba, Bloomsburg, N. J., State Teachers, in the high jump at six feet, four inches.

Miss Nancy Cowpertnwaite of the New York German-American A. C. lost her 50-yard hurdles title when she was nipped at the tape by Miss Lillie Purifoy of Tuskegee.

Miss Walsh, who has won twenty-seven national A. A. U. events in previous meets, scored an easy five-yard victory as she defended her title in the 220-yard dash. Miss Walsh, holder of the American indoor record of 25.8 seconds, sprinted the distance in 28.6 seconds as Miss Juanita Watson of Tuskegee finished second.

Miss Dorothy Dodson of Chicago retained her eight-pound shot-put crown with a heave of 34 feet, 6½ inches. Miss Helen Stewart of the Harrisburg (Pa.) A. A. A. hurled the weight 34 feet 4½ inches, one-fourth farther than Miss Walsh's effort.

Johnson's Was 'Natural' Death, Coroner's Jury

The People's Voice New York, N.Y. 3-30-46

SAN FRANCISCO. (ANP)—**Cornelius Johnson, 32, former Olympic high jump champion, died of natural causes, according to a coroner's jury which brought the decision last week** over testimony which showed that the athlete was suffering from acute bronchial pneumonia and was not given proper treatment on his ship, the Santa Cruz.

Johnson, who is said to have run amuck last February 15 on the vessel where he was a cook, died as he was being subdued by police and crew members. An autopsy revealed that he had not been drinking and that no poison was involved.

Mrs. Ruby Braxton and Theodore Johnson, sister and brother of the famed trackman, attempted to learn why he wasn't treated for pneumonia, of which he was suffering.

W. N. Beckwith, officer of the Santa Cruz, testified Officers Victor Wilcox and James Carpeneti had looped a twel around Johnson's head to bring him under control, and that the towel had slipped around his neck during the tussle.

"Corny" Johnson, whose outdoor high jump record of 6 feet 9¼ inches has been bettered only by Mel Walker, with whom he often competed in national track meets, was one of the most outstanding athletes at the Olympic games in Berlin in 1936. With his team-mate, Jesse Owens, he managed to smash Hitler's "white supremacy" myth much to the embarrassment of the Fuehrer, who stomped out of the stadium in white heat without greeting the stars when "Corny" and Jesse broke several records.

3-30-46

At the time of the athlete's death, it was rumored that he was the victim of an overdose of benzedrine or some other form of poison, and that he had met with foul play. The coroner's jury branded both stories a lie.

Walker Double Big 10 Winner

Chicago Defender

University Of Illinois Takes Championship

Chicago Ill.

By FAY YOUNG

Negro athletes starred in the Big Ten track and field championships Saturday night, March 9, at Bartlett gym, University of Chicago. Four thousand, the largest crowd to see a Big Ten indoor meet, watched Lloyd LaBeach, Wisconsin freshman from Panama, set a new conference indoor broad jump record of 24 feet, 8⅜ inches. The old record was made by Lee Farmer, Iowa's Negro star, back in 1942. It was 23 feet, 9¼ inches.

The University of Illinois team won the meet 57½ to Michigan's 57 5-6 points.

Herb McKenley, the British West Indian, running for the University of Illinois, equaled the conference and American indoor record in the 440-yard event when he was timed in 48.1 seconds. Horace Coleman, who played football for Michigan, placed fourth.

McKenley, picked to be troublesome in the 880-yard run, was forced out of the running on the sixth lap. Archie Parsons, Michigan, was third.

3-16-46

BILL MATHIS, former Cardoza High star of Washington, D. C., won the final of the 65-yard dash in 6.3 seconds after winning the semi-final in 6.2 seconds. LaBeach of Wisconsin placed third in this event and Kenneth Wallace of Minnesota was fourth. Carl N. Baynard, Ohio State, was sixth. There were but two white runners in the final. They were Buster of Illinois and Pierce of Illinois. Pierce was second and Buster was fifth.

Baynard was second in the semi-final first heat. Mathis won the second semi-final, Wallace was second and LaBeach was third. Richard Washington, Iowa's freshman from Gary, Ind., was shut out.

George Walker, the University of Illinois indoor and outdoor Big Ten hurdles champion, retained his indoor titles in the 70-yard low and 70-yard high hurdles. He took the high in 8.9 seconds and the low in 8.1.

Walker qualified for the final of the high hurdles by winning the second semi-final in 9 seconds flat. He was timed in 8.1 seconds in the semi-final of the low hurdles.

Benard Lewis, Iowa, finished second from the last in a field of nine finishers in the one-mile run.

Charles Fonville, University of Michigan's freshman from Detroit, was second in the shot put with a heave of 49 feet, 3¾ inches.

Mel Groomes, University of Indiana, went into a tie for third place with Kilpatrick, white, of Purdue in the high jump with 5 feet, 11 inches.

Sat.

THE ONE-MILE RELAY decided the meet. There were two heats with four teams in each heat. Each was timed and the race settled on a basis of time made. Illinois and Michigan, fighting it out for first place and with the Michigan team leading by a fraction of a point, were placed in the second heat. Minnesota won the first heat in 3:28. Illinois took the second heat in 3:21.3 with Michigan second. McKenley of Illinois finished a good 10 yards in advance of Michigan's anchor man.

Carl Baynard led off for Ohio State in the second heat. William Elliott of Indianapolis led off for Indiana, Jim Floyd of Gary ran the third leg and Bill Bradley of Rushville, Ind., ran anchor. All three are freshmen.

In the first heat, Carl Baynard of Ohio State led off. Otis Finney, former teammate of Buddy Young at Wendell Phillips High here in Chicago, led off for Iowa. Ohio State's team was fifth.

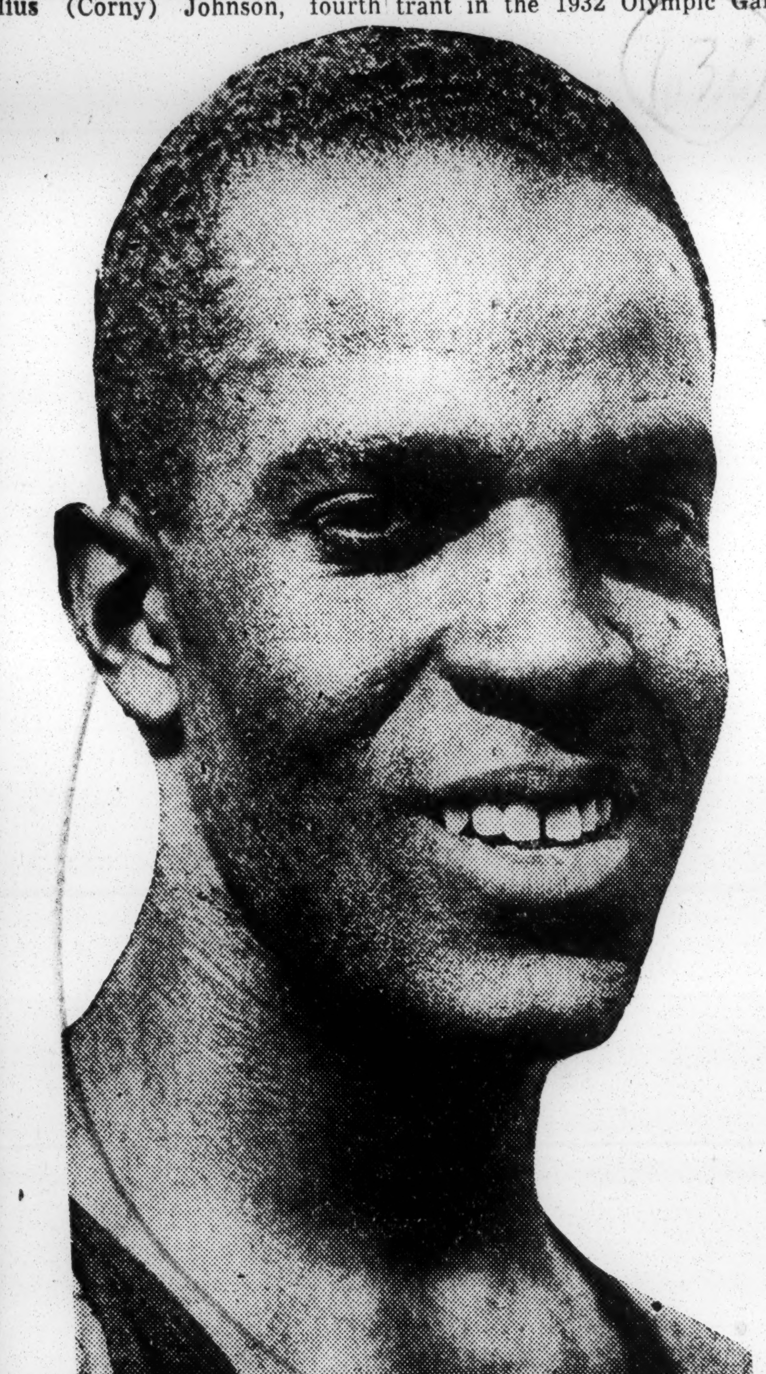
IN THE SECOND HEAT, William Elliott of Indianapolis led off for Indiana with Jim Floyd of Gary running third and Bill Bradley, Rushville, Ind., as anchor. All three are freshmen. For Michigan, Orval Johnson led off with Horace Coleman running the second leg.

Finney qualified in the 60-yard dash on Friday night but was shut out in the semi-final of Saturday.

On Friday night, LaBeach made 6.3 as did Pierce, white, of Illinois for the best times of the 60-yard qualifiers. McKenley's 50.5 was best of the 440-yard qualifiers. Walker's 8.1 topped the 70-yard low hurdles qualifiers. LaBeach set a new conference record by broad jumping 23 feet, 11¾ inches.

Cornelius Johnson, '36 Olympics High Jump Champion, Dead; Was Holder of World Record

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal. — Cornelius (Corny) Johnson, fourth place winner as a high school entrant in the 1932 Olympic Games



CORNELIUS JOHNSON

high jump and champion in the same event in the 1936 Olympics, died here at 3 a.m., Saturday.

The athlete's death was sudden and for a time was under probe by police. Later, it was determined he died of a heart attack.

Johnson was a baker on the merchant crew of the S.S. Santa Clara.

The 29-year-old star first gained national attention when he came out of virtual obscurity to win fourth place honors in the 1932 Olympics at Los Angeles. At that time, he was a student at Compton Junior College. From 1932, however, until he retired from active competition, he was never beaten again in a national championship event.

In the 1936 Olympics at Berlin, Johnson won the finals with a record-breaking leap of 6 feet 7 and 15-16 inches, beating, among others, his fellow-countryman, Dave Albritton of Ohio State University, who placed second.

It was Johnson who first was snubbed by Adolph Hitler at those games. The Nazi bigwigs had made much of herding the winners of other events before Hitler during the first day's events, but when it came time for the first colored winner to be greeted by Hitler, he had left the stadium claiming fatigue.

The incident caused a good deal of comment in newspapers throughout the world, but Nazi spokesmen said that Hitler had left because he was tired, and had not intended an insult. Johnson's outdoor mark stood until Les Steers, of the University of Oregon, broke it in 1941 with a jump of 6 feet 10 25-32 inches.

Johnson attended Compton Junior College, Pasadena, and later jumped for the Grand Street Boys' Association in New York City. He held many high jump titles, including the National Amateur Athletic Union championship.

Negro takes individual honors at 70th annual IC4A meet

ANNAPOLIS, Md.—As advertised, last week Army and Navy dominated the 70th annual running of the IC4A track and field championships, and the Middies did good enough with their sealegs to take the title. However, unadvertised Herbert Douglass, Pittsburgh Negro, walked off with the individual honors and the only dual win of the meet. He took the 100-yard dash in 9.7; and the broadjump with a 24 ft. 4-7/8 ins. leap.

Let's Second the Motion

Coach Stanley Woodward, the beefy, two-fisted ex-Amherst tackle and sports editor of the *Herald Tribune*, has come out swinging at the Amateur Athletic Union of America for its decision to hold the annual track and field championships next Summer in San Antonio, deep in the heart of the Jim Crow setup which thrives in our wonderful democracy.

I'm sure you don't have to be told that for years, now, Negro athletes have been streaking stars in that branch of athletics and any who would compete in Texas would be hustled around like the town prostitute and submitted to all the indignities of segregation and abuse that is the everyday lot of so many millions of Negroes.

The coach proposes to arrange a rival track meet right here on Randall's Island the very same day the AAU fires the starting gun deep in the heart of hate. And I propose to help with everything in my power to put it over, too.

In this meet, Woodward hopes to have the entry of all athletes capable of the best performance. As a starter, he could have the seven great Negro stars who now hold AAU titles in different events: Barney Ewell, Elmore Harris, Bob Kelley, Herb McKinley, Herb Douglas, Dave Albritton and Josh Williamson.

It could be that the AAU will reconsider its decision to take the championships to Texas, but it would surprise me greatly if it did, what with Avery T. Brundage, who said, sure, we should invite the Japs and the Germans to the next Olympics—and he said it a year before the war ended in Europe.

The white boys who have competed for years against these great Negro stars should react the same way anyone ought to who isn't wrapped up in a warped mind and hates people because their skin is black, or because they're Protestant, Catholic, or Jew.

And I have a hunch they will. It would be a great lesson in Americanism for everyone if there was a mass exodus from Texas even before they start and all of them would show up on Randall's Island. It would be a real lesson for the AAU, which for so long has needed that—if not a hole in the head.

There are many white athletes who resent the way the AAU gives them the Lor' almighty treatment and this would be the time of their lives to show it.

Woodward calls the Texas meet the Nordic championships and he's right as rain with his sarcasm. Hitler would have loved it.

Do I have to refresh you on the 1936 Olympics, when Marty Glickman, just back on WHN after Marine service, was a great sprinter, but got neatly by-passed by Brundage and his hatelers because, in Germany in those days, to be Jewish was a mortal crime?

And do I have to tell you how the great Jesse Owens, the dark-skinned flier from Ohio State, ran away with the top share of honors under the Heiling heels in Nuremberg Stadium? And how Owens and all the rest of the Americans, refused to return the Hitler salute and our colors weren't dipped as they passed in review?

And do I have to tell you that all that was heat-tingling and wonderful, yet was like ashes in your mouth when, once back on the shores of the United States, the great Jesse was just another nigger, as they say, who would have to ride the Jim Crow cars and suffer the indignities of discrimination?

At a time when this country is stepping out of the greatest blood bath in history, at a time when the white and the black boy alike fought and died for this country, at a time when we are preaching democracy from every pulpit, yet practice nothing but stupid prejudice, this AAU plan comes as a slap in the face to every decent-minded American.

Oh, what great stuff for Bilbo and Rankin and the rest of their kind. This'll give 'em a chance to fix the kikes and the dagoes and the niggers. Come into our South, fellas. Sure, you can run against the records, you can try to defend your athletic honors, but don't come over that color line, nigger. You-all are down heah where we know how to treat the likes of you.

Here's a suggestion, Stanley:

Let's hold that track meet the day or two before Joe Louis fights Billy Conn for the heavyweight championship of the world.

Let's have Joe Louis help us.

Let's have Billy Conn help us.

Let's wring every bit of help we can out of that one, when the eyes and the ears of the world are on us here in New York.

Let's get radio time.

Let's get some help from Jimmy Powers, Dan Parker, Arthur Daley, Bill Corum, Joe Williams, Frankie Graham, Jimmy Cannon, Leonard Cohen, Al Buck, Jerry Mitchell, Grant Rice, Wilbur Wood, Jesse Abramson, Bill Heinz, Winchell—everybody.

When do we print the entry blanks?

—JOE CUMMISKEY

Records Take Pounding in Purdue Relay Games

Bill Dillard Cracks World's Hurdles Mark, Mathis Equals Sprint Standard at Lafayette

Dillard

LAFAYETTE, Ind.—Harrison (Bill) Dillard, sensational Baldwin-Wallace hurdler, and William (Billy) Mathis, University of Illinois freshman sprinter, led an assault on existing indoor records in the annual Purdue Relays, held here Saturday. Dillard, voted the No. 1 athlete in the European-Mediterranean war theatre prior to his discharge from the Army early this winter, broke the world's record for the 60-yard low hurdles while capturing the event from Georgie Walker, another colored star, in a tight finish.

Dillard completed the distance in 6.8 seconds, a tenth of a second and faster than the old American record set by Dave Rankin of Purdue and Roy Cochran, Indiana, both white, in 1940. Bill Olson, white, and Buddy Young, both of Illinois, have since tied the mark.

Ties Buddy's Mark

Later, Dillard scored his second triumph of the meet, again beating Walker, the Big Ten timber champion. The Baldwin-Wallace ace copped the 60-yard high hurdles in 7.5 seconds.

Mathis, former interscholastic sprint champion, while running for Cardozo High School, Washington, D.C., equalled the 60-yard dash record for the meet when he led Wallace of Minnesota, Garthiser of Notre Dame, and Pierce of Illinois, into the tape.

His time of 6.2 seconds matched the time hung up by Buddy Young, Mathis's predecessor at Illinois, who is now in the Navy and stationed in California. Young set the mark in 1944 while he, like Mathis, was a freshman at Champaign.

Former Service Men Who Competed in Field Events at Title Meet

Bernard Mayer, N. Y. U., winner of the 16-pound shot-put; Rudolph Valentine, New York Pioneer Club; Irving Kintisch, N. Y. U.; Homer Gillis, N. Y. U.; Henry Majlinger, N. Y. U., and Eulace Peacock, New York Pioneer Club, at South Field for the metropolitan championships.

The New York Times

M'MITCHELL THIRD AS SICKINGER WINS TITLE IN THE 1,000

Stanton Callender Also Beats Les in Metropolitan Meet—Victor Timed in 2:15.5

PADLA TAKES WEIGHT TOSS

Richardson Is First in Broad Jump, Mayer Annexes Shot Put in the Afternoon

By JOSEPH M. SHEEHAN

A bristling race by Fred Sickinger, stalwart Manhattan sophomore, plus the breaks of the starting draw in an unwieldy field, combined to defer the return of Leslie MacMitchell to the status of a champion in the pre-war mile king's first bid for a foot-racing title since he entered the Navy at the end of the 1942 season.

Eschewing his favorite eight-furlong route in favor of another conditioning effort at 1,000 yards, MacMitchell came home in third place behind Sickinger and Stanton Callender of N. Y. U. in the featured running event of the annual Metropolitan A. A. U. senior indoor track and field championships at the Twenty-third Regiment Armory in Brooklyn.

With all due respect to MacMitchell, this was no Johnny-come-lately who took his measure. Sickinger, a top-notch middle distance performer in his own right before he went off to the wars, was more at home at this distance, which he covered in 2:15.5, sizzling time on the flat, eight-lap armory track.

First by Two Yards

At the finish the Manhattan runner was two yards in front of Callender, last year's winner, with MacMitchell another four yards behind the Violent entry. Callender was timed in 2:15.8, while the watches caught MacMitchell in 2:16.8. All of these times were of pre-war caliber, Les himself having done 2:18.4 from scratch in the handicap 1,000 that launched his post-war campaign in the Grover Cleveland meet last Saturday.

Placed thirteenth from the post as the result of the draw for starting positions, MacMitchell emerged from the scramble around the first turn next to last in the field of fourteen as Jim Herbert, the Grand Street Boys veteran who elected the 1,000 instead of the 600 which he had won five years in a row, Callender and Sickinger broke on top.

Fully twenty yards behind the leaders as a result, MacMitchell immediately started to close up, having to swing wide around the field to do so. This extra effort undoubtedly took its toll because he certainly did not have his usual life toward the end. In fact, Sickinger, pulled away from him on the bell lap.

Herbert Shows Way

At the quarter Herbert was in front, the post being passed in fifty-eight seconds, with Callender and Sickinger in close chase of him. Sickinger moved to the fore on the backstretch of the fourth lap and was showing the way at the half-mile mark, where he was saught in 1:59.3, with Callender still second, MacMitchell now third and Herbert fading out of the picture.

As they moved into the bell lap, MacMitchell edged past Callender and came up onto Sickinger's shoulder rounding the next-to-last turn. The Manhattanite had more than enough left to meet this challenge and drew away slowly but surely down the backstretch. In the home-stretch it was Callender that he had to fight off, and did, for MacMitchell had run his race.

It was a neat performance by Sickinger, who ran a heady as well as a strong race to recapture this title which he won in 1943 as a freshman. His winning time was only 1.3 seconds off the meet mark set by Gene Venzke in 1941, and that time was made with spiked shoes on the banked track of the Bronx Coliseum.

Tommy Quinn of the New York A. C., the national cross-country champion, finally made the grade as a mile winner, coming through against a field that contained no other standout performer in the sound time of 4:19.1. It was Quinn's race all the way. The 27-year-old Michigan Normal graduate posted quarter times of 1:05.7, 2:11.1 and 3:17.1.

Walsh Annexes Third

Billy McGuire of the Sixty-ninth Regiment A. A., another of the meet's numerous returned veterans, stayed on the victor's shoulder for six laps and came home twelve yards behind, with another Winged Foot entry, Ed Walsh, another twenty yards astern.

Quinn was regular competitor in last winter's cup races, but with Jim Rafferty around never had a chance to break the tape. His performance puts him in the forefront of the pretenders to the invitation mile title in the major campaign which opens next Saturday with the Philadelphia Enquirer meet.

Tom Carey of the Pioneer Club scampered off with the 60-yard dash, repeating his victories of 1940 and 1941. The veteran Eulace Peacock was second by a step, with the third Pioneer Club entry, Rudie Nedd a close third. Carey, who campaigned all over the Pacific as an Army Warrant Officer, was caught in 0:06.5.

Victors in Afternoon

Sammy Richardson of the Pioneer Club, in the broad jump; Bernie Mayer of N.Y.U., in the 16-pound shot-put, and Max Padla, Navy athletic specialist from Jersey City, competing unattached, were the first champions to be crowned. They won their titles in a frigid afternoon session at Columbia University's South Field.

The veteran Richardson, a 1936 Olympic place winner for Canada and National AAU indoor champion in 1936 and 1937, dethroned Homer Gillis, N.Y.U. GI freshman, by leapiing 22 feet 9¾ inches. Gillis, in second place, did 22-7½, more than a foot better than his winning performances of 1944 and 1945.

Mayer, metropolitan, as well as national and I.C.A.A.A.A., champion in 1943, before he went off to join the marines, closely approached his pre-war form by tossing the shot 50 feet 8 inches, as Irving Kintisch, another newly returned N.Y.U. veteran, placed second with 49 feet 9½ inches.

Padla, a real "whale" at 246 pounds, was the class of the field in the weight throw, which he took with a flip of 48 feet 2¾ inches. Kintisch, in third place, and Bob Kalikow, in fourth, added valuable points to the N.Y.U. total as John Meagher, the New York A. C. veteran who won last year, went unplaced.

THE SUMMARIES

TRACK EVENTS

Catholic High School 2-mile relay—Won by Bishop Loughlin (Patrick O'Brien, Martin Mealey, Thomas Comerford, Philip O'Connell); La Salle Academy, second; St. Augustine's, third; De La Salle, fourth. Time—8:14.3.

One-mile run—Won by Thomas V. uinn, New York A. C.; William McGuire, 69th Regt. A.A., second; Edward J. Walsh Jr., N. Y. A. C., third; Henry Eckert, N. Y. U. A. A., fourth. Time—4:19.1.

60-yard high hurdles—Won by Jack P. Morris, N. Y. A. C.; Richard Craw, N. Y. A. C., second; Sol H. Furth, Grand Street Boys, third; Bruce Milleage, Lincoln High School, fourth. Time—0:09.5.

1,000-yard run—Won by Fred Sickinger, Manhattan; Stanton Callender, N. Y. U. A. A., second; Leslie MacMitchell, unattached, third; David Smith, Millrose A. A., fourth. Time—2:15.5.

FIELD EVENTS

16-Pound Shot-Put—Won by Bernard Mayer, New York University A.A., 50 feet 8 inches; Irving Kintisch, New York University A.A., 49 feet 9½ inches, second; John F. Bazyk, unattached, 44 feet 4 inches, third; Ensign Don C. Tillman, United States Navy, 42 feet, fourth; Chester Kaufman, Grand Street Boys, 38 feet 5 inches, fifth.

35-Pound Weight Throw—Won by Max Padla, United States Navy, 48 feet 2¾ inches; Catalda Galeano, unattached, 44 feet 2 inches, second; Irving Kintisch, New York University A.A., 43 feet 6½ inches, third; Robert Kalibow, New York University A.A., 42 feet 9¼ inches, fourth; Patrick J. O'Donnell, New York A.C., 40 feet 9¾ inches, fifth.

Running Broad Jump—Won by Samuel Richardson, New York Pioneer Club, 22 Feet 9¾ inches; Homer Gillis, New York University A.A., 22 feet 7½ inches, second; Rudolph Valentine, New York Pioneer Club, 21 feet 6½ inches, third; Eulace Peacock, New York Pioneer Club, 21 feet 6¼ inches, fourth; Alexander Boruch, New York A.C., 21 feet 2 inches, fifth.

Sudden Death Of Athlete Is Probed

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 16—(AP)—Laboratory tests were begun today to determine the cause of the sudden death of Cornelius "Corny" Johnson, who won the Olympic Games high jump championship in Berlin in 1936.

City Toxicologist Joseph B. Swim said the tests would take several days.

Policeman Victor Wilcox reported that he was summoned last night to the SS Santa Cruz, a Grace Line ship docked at Pier 37, and found Johnson in a frenzied state. Wilcox said the man was subdued, but became unconscious and died before his arrival at Harbor Emergency Hospital.

The Coroner's office said there were no signs of foul play.

Johnson, a merchant crew baker aboard the ship, was six feet, four inches tall, weighed 161 pounds and was about 30 years old.

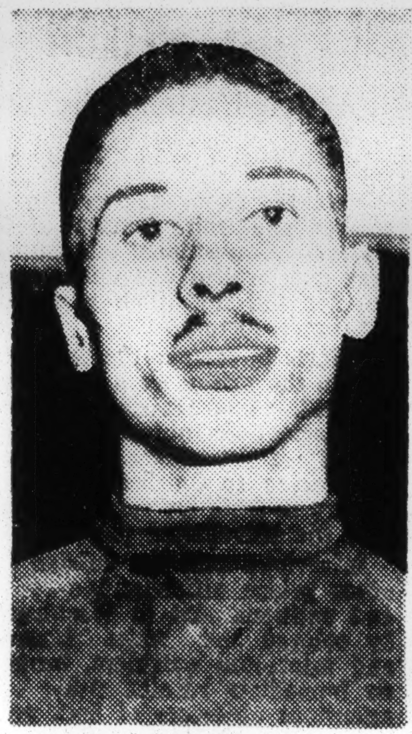
His winning jump at Berlin was 6 feet 7 15/16 inches. At the New York Olympic trials the same year he twice was coholder of the world records, at 6 feet 8 15/16 inches indoors, and 6 feet 9 3/4 inches outdoors.

The Coroner's office said he was the son of Frederick and Pearl Johnson, of Los Angeles.

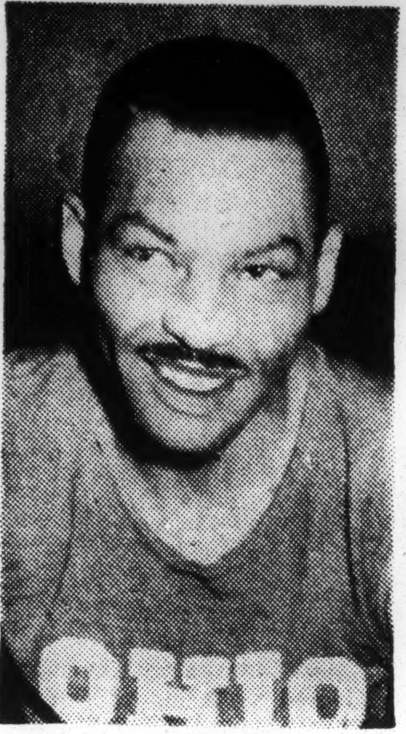
Some Say Yes, Some Say No to Texas Track Meet

RUDY SIMMS
Won't Go

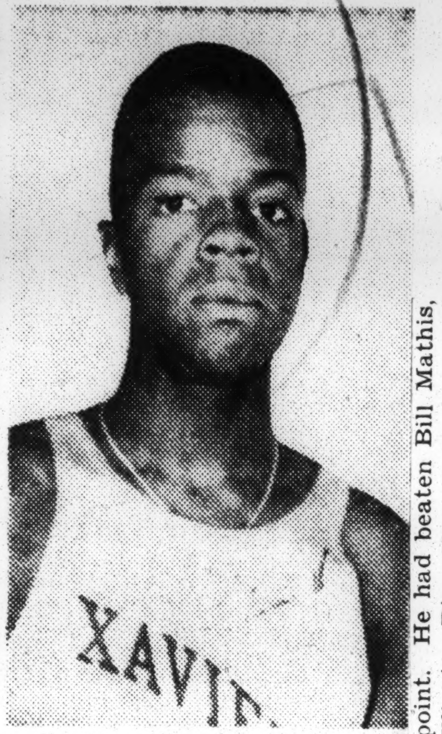
ED DUGGER
Undecided



HERB McKENLEY
Will Go



DAVE ALBRITTON
Undecided



HUBERT GATES
Won't Go

Stars Divided on Issue of Boycott of National Meet at San Antonio

Afro-American 2-2-46
Baltimore, Md.

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

PHILADELPHIA

Opinion is divided among top-line athletes on the subject of colored participation in the National AAU track and field championships at San Antonio, Texas, next summer, the AFRO learned here Friday night.

Questioning revealed that of the 11 stars on hand for the Philadelphia Inquirer indoor meet, three of whom are defending champions, five favor boycotting the games if the AAU persists in staging the affair in prejudiced San Antonio. Three say they want to go, and the remaining three are undecided as to what course they prefer.

Aligned as one against full-scale colored participation in the Texas meet are Jimmy Herbert, 1936 and 1941 national 600-yard king and one of all-time greats at middle distance running; Eulace Peacock, former outdoor 100-yard and broad jump champion and member of 1936 Olympics team; Hubert Gates, defending national junior 400-meters hurdles champion; Maurice Callender, sensational middle distance star and NYU mile-relay anchor man, and Rudy Simms, IC 4-A mile title-holder and 1944 junior 1500-meter king.

Three Opposed

Opposed to the boycott plan are Barney Ewell, world's record-holder for 50-yard indoor sprint and defending champion of national 100-meter dash; Eddie Conwell, 1944 national indoor 60-yard champ and IC 4-A 100-yard dash king the same year, and Herb McKenley, defending champion in the 400-meter event.

The three whose minds are not made up are Dave Albritton, co-holder of the 1945 high-jump crown and member of the 1936 Olympics team; Ed Dugger, 1944 and 1945 indoor high hurdles king, and Homer Gillis, finalist in indoor and outdoor sprint championships in 1944 and 1945.

Two Emphatic "No's"

Herburt and Peacock assured the AFRO query with an emphatic "No!"

"I am definitely not going to the nationals if they're held in San Antonio as planned," declared Jimmy.

Peacock's answer was flavored with sarcasm. "If a million soldiers can't change the South, how can a few of us athletes?" he wanted to know.

Gates thought awarding the meet to Texas was "dirty." Said he: "It goes to show the AAU had no regard for its colored athletes. I think it was dirty and I'm pretty sure I won't go."

Ewell Says "Yes"

Callender, whose twin brother Stanton did not compete here, told the AFRO: "I do not feel that we should compete but I suppose I'll have to be governed by the school's (NYU) action."

"I say go to Texas," declared Simms, "but only if they guarantee we will be treated as citizens. So you can see I don't expect to participate."

Taking the opposite view, Ewell asserted: "I haven't given the thing too much thought, but I would say that more could be gained by going than by staying away. I have the feeling that it would do the South good to see the friendly rivalry that exists in AAU contests and it would certainly indicate that we are too big to be swayed by petty prejudices." 2-2-46

Boycott Improper

Conwell also felt that a boycott would be improper, declaring: "I think more can be gained by going, but I will stay away if the other fellows do."

McKenley dismissed the query with the simple statement: "I don't think we should run away from it."

Albritton's undecided judging from his declaration: "I haven't thought about it sufficiently long to make up my mind one way or the other. I worked down there for several years and I don't hold any personal grudges against the section, but I guess I'd better wait until I've thought about it before reaching anything definite."

Dugger Undecided

Dugger, likewise, hasn't made up his mind. He told the AFRO: "I can't say that I am wholly in favor of going, but it's quite likely that I'll have to compete if I wish to go overseas for the Olympics. I imagine that is going to be a trial for them. However, I'll forego any decision until I think further about it."

Said Gillis: "I'm running for New York University now and I'd rather not be quoted as to my own feelings in that matter until I learn what the school's decision will be."

Six of Twenty-four In 1946 Handbook Are Negroes

The Call, Kansas City, Mo.

NEW YORK—(NNPA)—Negro track and field athletes still hold a high place in the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States. Six of the 24 athletes pictured in the 1946 annual handbook are colored athletes—Joshua Williamson, Elmore Harris, Barney Ewell, Robert Kelley, William Mathis and Alice Coachman.

In February the following were national senior indoor track and field champions in New York city: 60 yards, Barney Ewell; 600 yards, Elmore Harris; 60 yards high hurdles, Ed Dugger; running broad jump, Barney Ewell; pole vault, tied for first place, Joshua Williamson.

In the high school championships, William Mathis won the 60-yard dash.

The women held their indoor national championship in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1945 and as usual the Tuskegee girls won the championship by 28 points to the nearest other score of 12½. Alice Coachman won the 50-yard dash and the running high jump. Tuskegee's girls won the 440-yard relay and many seconds, thirds and fourths.

Race athletes named on the 1944 Men's All-American Track and Field team were: 60 yards, Edward Conwell; 100 yards, Claude Young; 440-yard, Elmore Harris; 880 yards, Robert Kerley; 60 yards, Edward Dugger; 60-yard low hurdles, Edward Dugger; Barney Ewell, running broad jump; Don Barksdale, hop, step and jump; Eulace Peacock, pentathlon.

The All-American Women's Track and Field team for 1944 includes: Alice Coachman, 50 meters; Alice Coachman, running high jump; Hattie Turner, discus throw and baseball throw; Lillie Purefoy, 80-meter hurdles; and Alice Coachman teamed with Stella Welsh (white), Kay Geary (white) and Elizabeth Peel (white) on the 400-meter relay team.

Colored athletes are short in the distance events. If colleges and high school coaches were to put more stress on developing distance runner and cross country teams, it is safe to believe that colored athletes would dominate the distance fields as well. Since colored boys are the outstanding sprint and middle distance runners, many white papers, especially in the south, feature the distance champs or the pole vaulting events, in which we have not had too many performers.

2-15-46

Although Ed Conwell was first with 36 points and Ed Dugger was nominated by the jury of sports writers, second with 26 points in the Milrose games, the Washington daily papers and southern papers pictured Les Mitchell doing one of the slowest miles in recent years, and gave no picture space to Conwell, Dugger, Harris or Ewell. If we had another Dixon, they would have to run a pole vaulter or some mediocre performer to escape the picture of some Negro lad romping to victory.

Buddy Young Wins his first race in two years

Los Angeles, Calif. Tribune

CHAMPAIGN, Ill.—Sandwiching in his own humble opinion on his chances of making a comeback after a year in the Navy, intercollegiate sprint champion and 1944-45 football whiz Buddy Young said: Sat. 3-30-46

"I feel swell. I was worried about my reaction to the gun, because I've been out of track so long. But I'm not any more. I haven't lost it." This was after he finished handily in a workout at the University of Illinois' armory, his first in two years.

And he had just proved his point. He had beaten Bill Mathis, Illinois Big Ten indoor sprint champion, before 3,500 fans, there to see the state basketball tournament. Sat. 3-30-46

"Hitting the gun on the nose," as he put it, Buddy was three yards ahead of the opposition almost at the bang, and breezed in to win his first race in two years.

63i

Hampton Runner Sets a 'First' In Winning 400-Meter Penn Hurdles

By GEORGE LYLE, JR.
For the NNPA News Service

PHILADELPHIA. — Hubert Gates, former Langley Field (Virginia) GI who has matriculated at Hampton Institute, was the first colored athlete to cross the finish line a winner in the 52nd annual running of the Uiversity of Pennslylvania Relays here Friday, when he took his heat of the 400-meter hurdles.

His time, 56.4 seconds, was the second fastest; Johnny Di Carlo Villanova who captured the first heat in 55.1 being declared the winner.

It was a raw, cold day and the handful of spectators who braved the weather to watch the thinclads circle the oval were treated to many thrills.

Most tragic happening of the day was the failure of the Cardo high, Washington, D. C., foursome to add to their indoor championship when Captain Clarence Turner pulled up with a lame leg as he neared the tape in the high school Quarter Mile Championship event.

The Cardozo team, David Clark, Cohan Cosby, Marcellus Boston and Turner, had reeled off a 44.1 heat to lead the qualifiers, and oddly enough, the time of the winning Cranford (New Jersey) team was the same. The District team placed third.

Cranford had two colored runners, Dick Brown and Herbert Thomas, running third and fourth. It was a yeoman stint by Thomas that gave the Jerseyites their win although he never would have caught the flying Turner if he had not suffered the pulled muscle.

Southern high of Philadelphia, with Miguel Pulido, Leon Barnett, Joseph Carlozzo, and Pitts, captured the Philadelphia high school mile title with Central and Overbrook in the van.

Most amusing incident occurred in the elementary school 300-yard shuttle relay which was run on the grass.

The tiny anchor man of one of the schools slipped on the start but speedily overhauled his larger rivals. As he reached the tape he suddenly haulted to duck under the tape and his adversaries passed him.

In the collegiate division Illinois, with Bill Mathis of Washington, D. C., George Walker of Robbins, Illinois, Jack Pierce and Herbert McKenley, running that order, took the quarter-mile title nosing out Navy, Howard and New York university.

Morgan State college of Baltimore, competing against Oklahoma Aggies and Princeton, wound up a poor third due to faulty stick passing.

New York university, with Milford Parker running the first leg and former intercollegiate champion Frank Dixon in his first race, running the anchor leg, failed to overhaul the Manhattan college runners and placed second in the distance medley event.

Negro Athlete Leads Baldwin-Wallact To Championship

DELAWARE, Ohio. — Harrison Dillard of Baldwin-Wallace college, equaled the 5-year-ald world record for the 220-yeard low hurdles as he led his school to the unofficial state college track championship at Ohio Wesleyan in the third annual Ohic State track and field meet last Saturday, June 8. The elongated flash ran the 220-yard hurdles in 22.5.

Dillard also won the 100-yard dash and 120-yard high hurdles

HARRISON DILLARD

before making his record equaling 220-yard hurdle run. In both the dash and 120 hurdle Harrison, running with terrific speed, lead his field with several yards.

He tied the world mark set by Fred Wolcott of Rice Institute in the 1941 Princeton invitational meet.

By winning three first places, Dillard copped the individual honors for the meet, and his wins made a new record.

Baldwin-Wallace's total points for the meet were 53 1-2. Miami finished second with 39 1-2 points and Ohio university was third with 34 1-2 points.

Dillard ran the century in 9.6 and the 120-yard high hurdles in 142

Ewell Sets World Mark in 220 Dash

PHILADELPHIA

Barney Ewell, defending champion in the national outdoor sprints, ran a sizzling, record-breaking 220-yard dash to win that event in the annual Middle At-

BARNEY EWELL

lantic AAU track and field games here Saturday afternoon, covering the distance in the world time of 21.1 seconds, lowering Ralph Metcalfe's world mark for a curved track by one-tenth of a second.

Ewell may be deprived of the honor, however, due to the fact a stiff breeze was reported at the back of the contestants.

The former Penn State star had cracked the 100-yard dash record for the meet. Ewell did the century in 9.7 seconds, lowering the mark set by George Guida white, in last year's event.

In the same meet, Roscoe Browne, CIAA 880-yard champion, set a new Middle Atlantic record in capturing the half-mile test in 1:55.

When McKenley Runs World's Record, Big Ten Mark Tumble

By FAY YOUNG

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Herb McKenley, the British West Indian sophomore at the University of Illinois, defied the elements here Saturday afternoon in the forty-sixth annual track and field championships of the Big Ten conference, and ran a 46.2 seconds quartermile.

He established a new world record by clipping two-tenths of a second off of the recognized world time of Ben Eastman, white, Stanford university of California, made in 1932 and first set by white Grover Klemmer, University of California, in 1941. A slight drizzle started before the race. The track which had been soaked by Friday's downpour had been carefully rolled that night after the finish of the preliminaries.

McKenley smacked over the Big Ten record of 47.4 seconds set by Dr. H. Binga Dismond, University of Chicago, at Evanston, Ill., in 1916. For 30 years, this record has withstood the onslaughts of the best quartermilers in the Big Ten.

Back in 1916, Dismond's Big Ten time was not allowed by the committee which awarded the world records because in measurement of the track, it was declared to be an inch short of the full 440 yards. At least that was the claim then. However, the time was recognized as a Big Ten record and stood until Saturday afternoon when on a wet track and in a drizzle, McKenley, finishing fully 12 yards in advance of his nearest competitor made the 46.2. The 6¼ mile wind at his back as he came out of the chute was as much to his disadvantage after he rounded the second curve and came into the stretch. He came out of the chute, grabbed a five-yard lead and was never headed. Had he been pushed, McKenley might have done a 46 flat. Five watches caught him in 46.2.

FOLLOWING McKENLEY across the finish line were Carl Ockert, white, Illinois; Hugh Short, white, Michigan, and Carl Baynard, Ohio State, in order named. The second, third and fourth place men all were under Dismond's 47.4. Horace Coleman of Michigan was sixth.

McKenley surprised the crowd of 9,000 by winning the 220-yard dash in 20.6 seconds, the fastest time for the distance for any runner in America in the last four years. At halfway he was even with the flying Lloyd LaBeach, a fellow citizen from Kingston, Jamacia, B.W.I., and a freshman at the University of Wisconsin. McKenley's winning time was 20.6 seconds, three-tenths off the world record. Bill Mathis, Illinois, was fifth and Orval Johnson, Michigan, sixth.

In Friday's preliminaries, Mathis had led McKenley to the tape in 21.5 and Johnson was third all in the first heat and all qualified. LaBeach won the second in 21.4.

McKenley anchored the winning one-mile relay team of Illinois essaying another one of those breath-taking 440, this time again he was timed under 47 seconds. Illinois broke the mile relay Big Ten time with a 3:12.4 a bit faster than Michigan's 3:14.7 made in 1939.

Shortly before the mile relay, McKenley was called to the microphone and presented with the Lion Gardiner gold watch which is given annually to the outstanding athlete of the year at Illinois. This contest is sponsored by the Daily Alumni and the athlete chosen by a vote of the entire student body. In 1944, Claude "Buddy" Young was thus honored.

LLOYD LaBEACH, Wisconsin, making good use of his long legs and beautiful stride slipped past Bill Mathis, Illinois, to win the 100-yard dash in 9.6 seconds. Mathis was second and George Walker, the Illinois runner from Robbins, Ill., was sixth. Walker was defending champion, having won this event last year with a 9.9 seconds time.

Walker of Illinois won the 120-yard high hurdles final in 14.2 seconds. He was defending champion having won this event in 1945 in 15 seconds flat. Walker came through with a victory in the 220-yard hurdles in 23.6. Again he was defending champion. Last year his time was 23.4 seconds.

Thus Walker, along with McKenley became double winner. McKenley had given the half-frozen and drenched spectators the biggest thrill of a Big Ten meet since Jesse Owens, Ohio State, broke three world marks and tied the fourth all in a short space of 45 minutes in Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1935. LaBeach was individual winner of the meet with first place in the hundred, second in the 220 and a tie for second in the broad jump. His total was 12½ points which is derived thus: five for first, four for second and half of the second and third (seven points) place which would be 3½, a total of 12½. LaBeach's broad jump was 23 feet, 4½ inches.

Charles Fonville, University of Michigan weightman from Detroit, placed third in the discus with 147 feet, 7 inches. He finished second in the shot put with a heave of 47 feet, 1¼ inches.

Marvin Whitfield, Ohio State, grabbed the lead at the start of the halfmile and held it until the last 150-yards when he relinquished it and finished second. Whitfield, on Friday, won the second heat in 1:55, one-tenth second faster than the winner of the first heat. Barnard Lewis led the pack in the first heat but finished last in a field of seven. Riley McDonald, Ohio State, was in an excellent position to finish third and to qualify in the first heat but faltered four yards from the tape, and placed fourth.

DONALD WASHINGTON, OHIO State, was off with the gun and in the lead by five yards after the first turn in the two-mile run. He was second at the end of the first quarter. He dropped to third at the half but moved back to second at the three-quarters. He proved to be game. At one and one-fourth miles he was third but went back to second at the mile and a half. He finished fifth, finding the pace too fast when the gun sounded for the last lap.

In the mile relay, Orval Johnson led off and Horace Coleman ran third for Michigan. Elmer Prifogle led off for Indiana and William Bradley anchored for Indiana. Marvin Whitfield was the second runner for Ohio State. Michigan was second, Ohio State third to Illinois in this event.

Ike Johnson, University of Iowa, was scratched in the first heat of the high hurdles. Kenneth Wallace, University of Minnesota, pulled a tendon while warming up and was out of the dashes. He didn't start.

LaBeach did a 9.8 to cop the first heat of the 100 on Friday. Leroy "Coco" Brown, another West Indian at the University of Illinois, was last in the first heat. Mathis won the second heat in 9.8 with George Walker of Illinois, second.

Orval Johnson, University of Michigan, was third. *Saturday*

McKenley took the second heat of the 440 in 48.3. Carl Baynard of Ohio State was second. James Floyd of Indiana and Horace Coleman of Michigan failed to qualify in this heat. William Bradley of Indiana was eighth in the field of 11 starters. *Chicago*

Illinois won the meet with 66 3-4 points; Ohio was second with 31½. Michigan, Minnesota, Purdue, Indiana, Northwestern, Wisconsin, Iowa, all trailed in order named with Chicago pulling up last with no points. The Illinois' total was the third largest in the Big Ten history. Illinois won the title in 1945.

Prairie View wins Tuskegee relays

Tribune Los Angeles Calif.

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Prairie View's track team won the 20th annual Tuskegee Relay Carnival here last week by winning the 440 and two-mile relays and finishing second and third, respectively, in the 880 and mile relays.

Tuskegee was runner-up of the meet, winning the mile and taking second in the 880 and two-mile relays. Tuskegee Army airfield took third place by winning the 880 and finishing second in the 440. *Sat.*

William Carter, TAAF, took individual honors, winning the 100-yd. dash in 9.6 and running anchor on the 880 relay team. He was a tenth of a second off breaking the meet record for the century. C. B. Sheppard, Texas college, won the Moton Mile; David Bolden, Southern university, took the 440-yard dash; and Marion Jones, Wiley, copped the 120-yd. high hurdles.

Booker T. Washington high, Atlanta, Ga., won the 440, mile and two-mile relays, was nosed out by Alabama A & M in the mile medley, to win the scholastic title. Frank Stephens, Decatur high, won the 100-yard dash. *5-25-46*

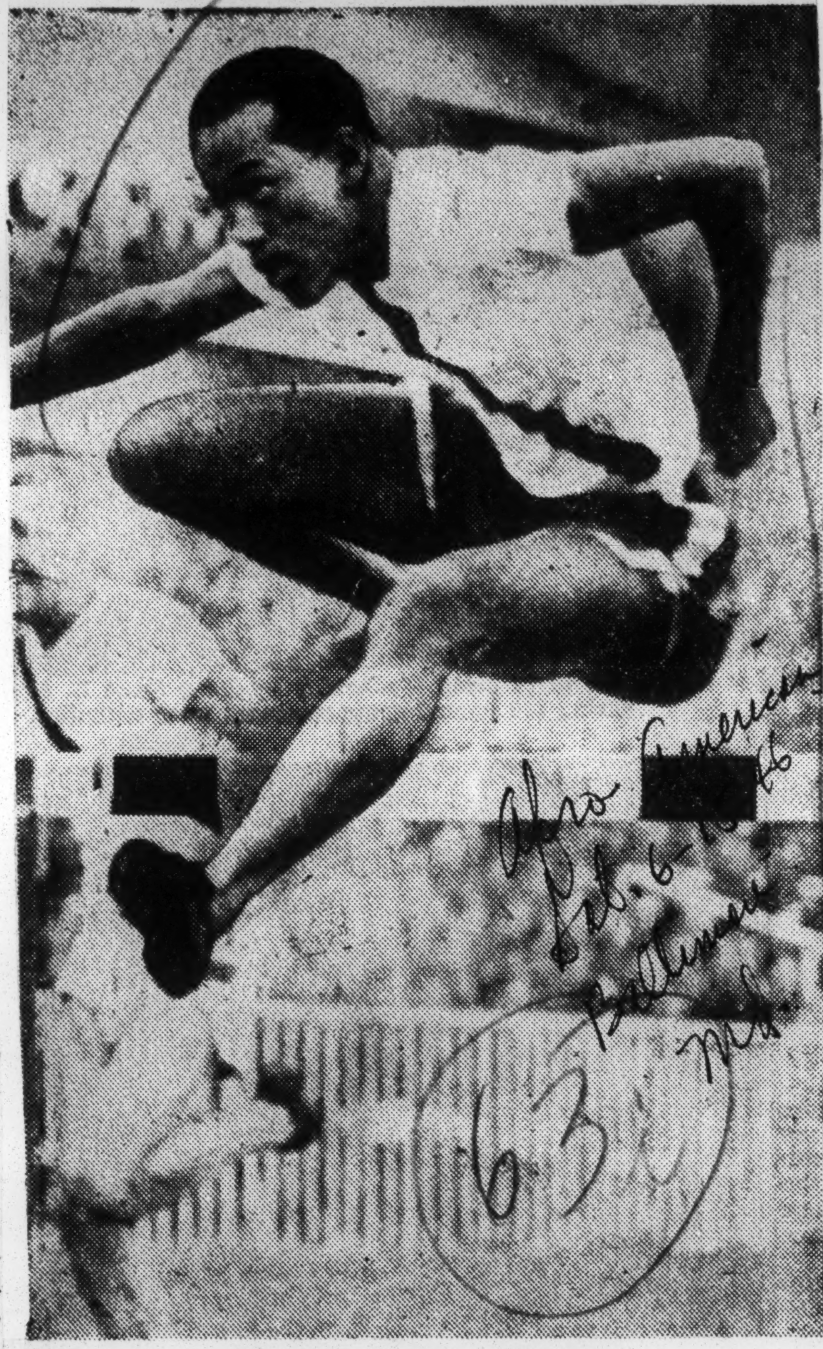
Dillard Matches 220 Hurdles Mark

Afro-American

DELAWARE, Ohio — Harrison (Bill) Dillard, Baldwin-Wallace timber-topping ace and No. 1 track athlete in the ETO last year, stepped over the 220-yard low hurdles in 22.5 seconds to equal the world record set by Fred Wolcott, white, of Rice, in 1941. *Sat.*

Dillard stormed into the tape an easy victor of the event, one of the most enthusiastically received contests of the all-Ohio cinder championships. Wolcott's mark was set at a Princetone Invitational meet

He Scorches the Timber



HARRISON (BILL) DILLARD, Baldwin-Wallace College ace, who last week equalled the world record for the 220-yard low hurdles event at Delaware, Ohio, demonstrates his technique in clearing the bar. Dillard was rated the top-ranking cinder star in the ETO prior to his discharge and was in fine fettle for his record-equalling feat of last Saturday when he skidded the distance in 22.5 seconds.

The Baldwin-Wallace sensation also shattered meet records in two other events, the 100-yard dash and the high hurdles, broke a Selby Field record in the latter and tied the field mark for the sprint.

JAMAICAN BREAKS WORLD AND BIG TEN '440' RECORDS

Herbert McKenley, British West Indian sophomore at the University of Illinois, set a new world record for the 440-yard run, and sparked his team to the conference championship in the Big Ten track and field meet at Champaign, Ill., Saturday. *Sat.*

In setting the new mark of 46.2 seconds, McKenley bettered the 30-year-old conference record set by H. Binga Dismond, another Negro, in 1916. McKenley's time was two-tenths of a second better than the world record, which has stood since 1932, and one and two-tenths seconds better than Dismond's time. He completed his field day by winning the 220-yard dash, and running under 47 seconds as anchorman in the mile relay, which the Illini quartet won. *6-8-46*

Lloyd LaBeach, West Indian freshman from the University of Wisconsin, shared honors with McKenley when he placed second in the 220-yard dash and tied for third place in the broad jump. He was individual high point man, with 12½ points. *Chicago*

Another Illini athlete, George Walker, was a double winner, taking top honors in the 120-yard high hurdles and the 220-yard low hurdles. He is indoor and outdoor conference champion in both events.

See story by Fay Young, Chicago Defender Sports Editor, who covered the meet, on sports page for details.

Illini Count on Herb McKenley

Times-Dispatch

CHAMPAIGN, ILL., June 18—Cofavored Illinois' 12-man squad is a threat in at least a half dozen events in the National Collegiate Track and Field meet at Minneapolis Friday and Saturday, but the form sheet casts only brilliant Quartermiler Herb McKenley as a cinch winner.

The Illini were easy victors in the Big Ten and Central Collegiate Conference championships, yet they move into the National showdown almost in the shadow of the traditionally powerful Southern California, which won nine straight NCCA crowns before taking wartime leave of the meet in 1943. *6-19-46*

Illinois copped in 1944 and Navy, which is not entered this year, triumphed last year. Now the Trojans, loaded for bear with a 13-man squad, are primed to take up where they left off.

Because the Mineapolis renewal, attracting 250 stars from 57 schools, promises to perk up performances to prewar quality, Illini hopes of grabbing enough firsts to offset Trojan balance may be jolted. *Richmond*

McKenley, long-striding swiftie from Jamaica who streaked over the 440 route in :46.2 to better the world record

in the Big Ten meet, should give the Illini at least one first.

Coach Leo Johnson held McKenley out of the 440 in the Central collegiate meet last Saturday to rest him for the National, in which he also will be clocked at 400 meters as he tries to better the world mark of 46 seconds flat, shared by Rudolf Harbig, of Germany, and Grover Klemmer, of Caliafornia. *Va.*

McKenley also holds the best 220 time of the season, :20.6, but he'll get a stiff argument in that event at Minneapolis from Southern California's Mel Patton, Stonie Cotton, of Baylor, and another Jamaican, Lloyd La Beach, of Wisconsin. *Wed.*

Illinois' George Walker is defending champion in the 120 high and 220 low hurdles, but here again the competition will be rugged. Ralph Tate, of Oklahoma A&M, has bobbed the high timbers in 14 seconds flat, tops for the season, while Harrison Dillard, of Baldwin-Wallace, and Al Lawrence, of Southern California, are great gallopers over the low barriers. *Richmond*

Dwight Eddleman, Illinois' great high jumper, tangles with Cochampions Fred Sheffield, of Utah, and Ken Wiesner, of Marquette. *Va.*

African Prince Wins Three Cinder Crowns

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

LONDON (ANP) — Prince Adegboyega Folaranmi Adedoyin of Nigeria, a student at Queen's University, Belfast, Ireland, is making a name for himself in athletics and succeeding in his medical studies as well.

During the British Universities Athletic Championships, held at White City recently, he scored in three events, the high jump, broad jump and hop, step and jump. In the broad jump he leaped 22 feet 11¾ inches, coming within three quarters of an inch of breaking the meet record held by K. S. Duncan of Oxford University and established in 1933. *Sat. 8-11-46*

The slim young African was unable to show his best form because the weather had turned unseasonably cold. He had to swathe himself in shirts, sweaters and a top coat as well to prevent catching cold between the events.

Thursday 6-20-46

Jimcrow took a beating in a Philadelphia court last week, when officials of the Benjamin Franklin Hotel issued a written apology for having refused to house the Negro members of the NYU track team during the Penn Relays last April. Attorneys for the NAACP and American Jewish Congress agreed to accept the written statement from the hotel. The case was settled by Magistrate Joseph Rainey. *New York*

Following the news of the Jimcrow incident in Philly after the Penn Relays, American Youth for Democracy organized a large student picket line protest at NYU, and charges against the Benjamin Franklin Hotel were filed by the following NYU track team stars: Maurice and Stanton Callender, Frank Dixon, Homer Gillis, Milford Parker and Alexander Jordan.

Jesse Owens Beats Case

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

CLEVELAND, Ohio — Jesse Owens, former world's sprint champion and winner of four crowns in the 1936 Olympics, came off a 10-year rest here Sunday to defeat George Case, Cleveland outfielder regarded the fastest man in the baseball majors. Owens was challenged by Charles Veeck, general manager of the Cleveland Indians, after Case had outrun Gil Coach, Washington outfielder, in a race to crown the major leagues' fastest.

Jesse Owens

The former Ohio State star accepted, and the date was set for Sunday. It was stipulated that he would have to run in baseball uniform. *Sat. 9-14-46*

Encumbered by this strange regalia, Jesse, nevertheless, was clocked in 9.9 seconds. He beat his opponent by a full yard.

[F]riendship Makes No Difference When Fighters Are True Sportsmen

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

By SAM LACY
AFRO Sports Editor

NEW YORK (Saturday)—Countless tales have been written anent the honesty of athletes and the supreme sportsmanship with which bigtime athletes abound.

I've always liked to read these stories — the one about the batter who, with two men out in the ninth, broke up the no-hit game of a popular pitcher, thus keeping out of baseball's hall of fame; or the one about the boxer or basketball coach who declined to win except by means that were thoroughly fair and above-board.

I suppose that's why I find myself tonight doing this piece, even before I undertake the assignment for which, primarily, I was sent here.

2-9-46

Two-Year Rivalry

This has to do with the Mel Sheppard 600-yard race, long one of the fixtures of the Millrose A.A.'s annual indoor track meet.

It has to do with the tremendously keen rivalry that tonight enters its second year, between Elmore Harris, the former Morgan State College star, and Jimmy Herbert, ex-New York University luminary.

It is woven of numerous tiny bits of intimate knowledge I have acquired while hanging around this pair of colorful athletes.

Just 20 minutes ago, Harris and Herbert were straining every nerve and muscle through the Madison Square Garden stretch, each trying his darndest to outfinish the other for this coveted honor.

Best of Friends

To es them battling like mad, one would never dream they were, an dware, the very best of friends. One would find it hard to believe that Jimmy was putting all he had into what may have been his last chance to score a precedent — shattering sixth triumph in this race.

Victory for him tonight would have meant the setting of a record that may never be equalled in our lifetime. It would have meant the bettering of Alan Helfrich's total of five wins in this test, acquisition of his third Millrose cup, and realization of an ambition to "win just one more 600 in the Garden," voiced by him just prior to the bark of the starter's gun.

2-9-46

Both Give All

These desires, born of human impulses, spurred him as he drove from far back of the flying Harris until, 30 yards from the finish, he was virtually stepping on the heels of the ex-Morgan speedster.

But Elmore was trying just as hard to stave off the challenge. He, too, was giving all he had, and in the full knowledge that he was probably breaking the heart of his closest pal.

For neither Harris nor Herbert is anybody's fool. Both know that for the latter, 30 years old and in his tenth year of strenuous indoor competition, can't go on much longer.

Could Easily Lose

They understand that the rigors of insurance work by day and law-study by night, together with the advancing years, are certain to take their toll, and that Jimmy's chances to realize his dreams become slimmer with each passing race.

They understand that Elmore's future i sahead of him, that he improves with each outing, and that there will be many 600's for him to win in the years to come.

Elmore knew that the slightest lapse on his part would have assured Herbert's first. He knew that Maurice Callender and Herb McKenley, back there fighting for third place, were well out of it, and that neither could upset the plan to "let Jim win it."

Harris gave no thought to the friendship which prompted him to save the first cigar on his baby's birth (the night before Christmas) for Herbert.

Jimmy the Favorite

The veins stood out in his forehead like tiny mountain ranges on a clay map, his teeth were clenched and the nails dug deeply into the palms of his hands as Elmore strained toward the outstretched tape. His was a do-or-die determination as he held on, with Jimmy's breath warming the back of his neck.

I was pulling for Herbert, as were 15,000 others who wanted to be in on the scene when track history was made.

Deep down inside, no doubt, Harris also wanted to see his friend achieve his aim. But, as he said after the race was over, "I wanted to make him win it, Jimmy wouldn't have liked it as a gift."

Yes, folks, this is what makes 15,000 people root for the loser but cheer the winner. 2-9-46

This is what convinces me that sports bring out the virtues of a man. This is what proves to me that "class" in an athlete is something tangible, after all.

It's also what makes me write this story first.

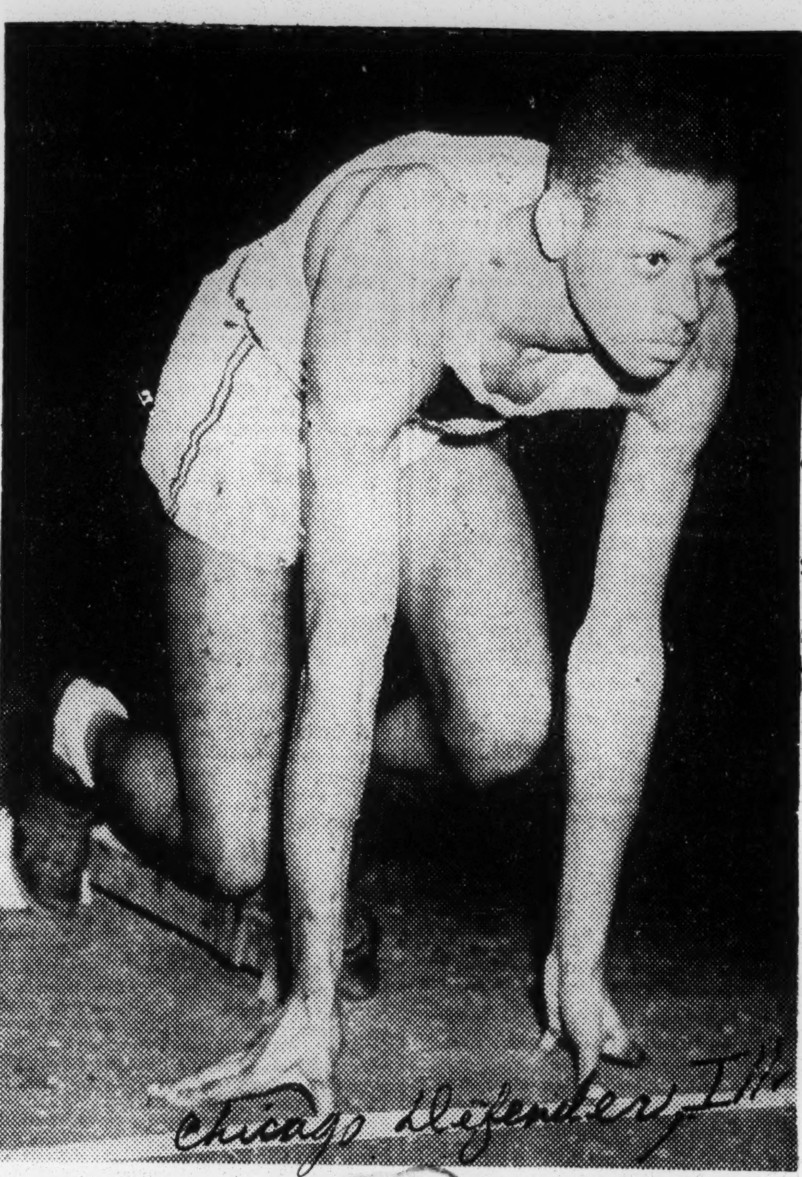
Win Sat'day Would've Been Nice for Herbert

NEW YORK — Had Jimmy Herbert, veteran Grand Street Boys' Association crack middle-distance runner, captured the Mel Sheppard 600 here Saturday night at Madison Square Garden, he would have been the first man ever to win the same race six times in the Millrose A.A. games.

Here is his remarkable record for the event:

1937—First in 1:12.6.
1938—First in 1:12.6 again.
1939—Third behind Wesley Wallace's 1:12.3.
1940—First in 1:11.4.
1941—Second behind Roy Cochran's 1:12.
1942—First in 1:12.4.
1943—Third behind Hugh Short's record-tying 1:10.2.
1944—Second by a foot behind Johnny Fulton's 1:12.1.
1945—First in 1:15.

JIMMY HERBERT



George Walker, the 155-pound Robbins, Ill., hurdler who retained the high and the low hurdles championship in the Big Ten meet at Bartlett gym, University of Chicago, on Saturday night, March 9. Coach Leo Johnson's Illini thinclads, however, did not cinch the meet until sepia Herb McKenley, the British West Indian, winner of the 440-event earlier, crossed the finish line 10 yards in advance of Michigan's one-mile relay team's anchor man. The winning time of 3 minutes 21.3 seconds gave Illinois enough points to win the meet. The score was 57½ for Illinois and 56 and five-sixths for Michigan. 3-16-46

Chicago Defender, Ill.

NYU Trackers Jim-Crowed

PM New York N.Y.

We don't have to wait for the Nation's crack Negro track stars to go to San Antonio, Tex., for the National AAU meet in June to see what kind of Jim Crow treatment they might receive, because the six members of the New York University track team, which went to Philadelphia to compete in the Penn Relays last week end, were refused admittance to the Hotel Ben Franklin, the city's largest and newest hostelry, because they are Negroes, and had to be put up in bunks at Franklin Field on the eve of the important competition.

Coach Emil von Elling, who has been bringing Negro athletes and white stars with him to various parts of the country in his tenure at NYU, took a large burn, and there's little doubt that the incident had a great effect on the athletes who had to try to win for NYU during the two-day relays.

The usual blanket order for rooms was placed with the Franklin, but when an assistant manager was checking the squad of 30-odd in at the hotel, the desk clerk spotted a couple of the Negro stars and said: "They can't stay here."

The assistant manager of the track team, informed that a convention had suddenly gobbled up much of the reservations for NYU, took what rooms he could get without argument and then, with the six Negro boys and others of the squad, went to Coach von Elling with the story and the coach hit the roof. 4-30-46

Von Elling complained of the treatment to the University of Pennsylvania authorities, who are hosts for the annual relays, and sleeping accommodations were fixed up in the field house where all the boys slept in dormitories.

The six Negroes who form the nucleus of the Violet track squad are: the Callender twins—Maurice and Stanton, nationally known distance stars; Frank Dixon, a record-holder; Alex Jordon, Milford Parker and Homer Gillis.

As university authorities pointed out, this has never before happened to NYU when Negro boys, who have played with the football, baseball and basketball teams in the past, have gone out of town to play.

That it has an upsetting effect on the athletes goes without saying, but I'm saying it anyway because it definitely did. About 10—all six Negroes and three or four other white boys—were herded into the dormitories, which are hardly to be compared with the A-1 resting facilities of the Ben Franklin, on the eve of the biggest event in their young lives.

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For the Record: . . . Vince DiMaggio, oldest of the brothers (33), lightest hitting (.251 in 9-yr. major league career), is now a Giant, coming in straight swap for catcher Clyde Kluttz, 27. However, he hits a long ball, which the PG is tailored for . . . William Helis and three partners were high bidders with $3,600,000 and now own Suffolk Downs race track.

—Joe Cummiskey.

Jesse Owens Does 100 yds In 9.9 Seconds Sunday

The World, Memphis, Tenn. 9-17-46

CLEVELAND —(ANP— Donning a baseball uniform, Jesse Owens, Olympic star and sprint ace, ran 100 yards in 9.9 seconds Sunday to whip George Case, Cleveland Indian outfielder and reputedly the fastest big leaguer, by one 10th of a second.

The race between the 32-year-old Owens, co-holder of the world's century record of 9.4 seconds, and 31-year-old Case was arranged by Bill Veeck, president of the Cleveland club, and Manager Lou Boudreau as an added attraction at the doubleheader between the Indians and the St. Louis Browns.

NYU Runners Jimcrowed by Philly Hotel

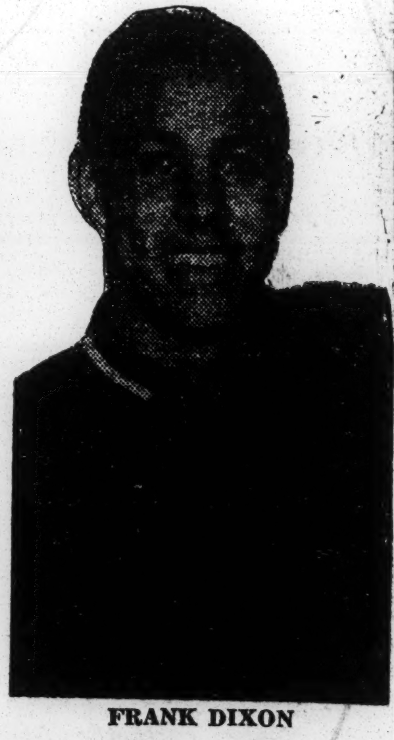
By WALTER LOWENFELS

PHILADELPHIA, May 2. — Negro and white athletes raced shoulder to shoulder at the Penn Relay track meet here last week. But the Hotel Ben Franklin refused to let Negro members of the NYU team sleep under its roof.

The hotel's jimcrow blot on one of the most democratic sporting events in the country has aroused resentment among youth, Negro and interracial groups here. A suit against the hotel under the State's Equal Rights law is being demanded.

Emil Von Elling, NYU coach, said that reservations for his team had been made at the Ben Franklin by H. Jamison Swartz, of Pennsylvania University. But when the team of some 15 athletes arrived last Friday, the hotel refused to take in the Negro runners. Von Elling tried to get rooms for the whole team elsewhere, but couldn't on account of the room shortage.

Finally 10 of the boys, Negro and white, were housed by Swartz at the Penn dormitories, and five white boys had to stay at the Ben Franklin.



FRANK DIXON

Among the jimcrowed Negro athletes was Frank Dixon, war vet and nationally known mile ace.

Illinois Captures Big Ten Title; McKenley Sets World Mark in 440

Champaign Track and Field Team Wins 7 of 14 Events, Betters Conference Record in Mile Relay—Shot Put to Bangert

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., June 1 (AP)—Herb McKenley, lithe Illinois speedster from Jamaica, in the British West Indies, today won the 440-yard r[un] the Big Ten track and field meet in 46.2 seconds, bettering the world record by two-tenths of a second. Illinois won the Conference team title with 66¾ points.

McKenley, running yards ahead of the field but obviously trying for a new record, ignored a light rain which sprinkled the University of Illinois Memorial Stadium track. The accepted world record of 46.4 was set in 1932 by Ben Eastman of Stanford and tied in 1941 by Grover Klemmer of California.

First by Fifteen Yards

Fast out of the blocks, McKenley opened up a ten-yard lead in the first 100 yards and ran by himself the rest of the way. At the finish he was fifteen yards ahead of his Illinois team-mate, Carl Ockert. He also tumbled the thirty-year-old Conference mark of 47.4, set by Binch Desmond of Chicago in 1916.

Illinois won seven of the fourteen events on the program and placed three men in both the 220 and 440. The Illinois mile relay team contributed the second record-breaking Conference performance of the day with a 3:12.4 victory to break Michigan's 3:14.7 mark set in 1939.

The final point standings were: Illinois 66¾, Ohio State 31½, Michigan 25, Minnesota 22, Purdue 18, Indiana 15, Northwestern 14, Wisconsin 13¾, Iowa 4 and Chicago 0.

McKenley is competing his first year for Illinois after a year at Boston College and has never been defeated while running for the Illini. After his performance in the 440 McKenley came back to win the 220 in 20.6 seconds. Still later he ran the anchor lap for the Illinois mile relay team as it established the new Conference record of 3 minutes 12.4 seconds.

Also running on the record-breaking Illinois relay team was Bob Rehberg, who came into the meet an underdog and emerged a double winner. The crowd of 8,315 persons was on its feet cheering as Rehberg drove down the stretch to a 1 minute 52.3 second victory in the 880, and 4 minutes 17.3 seconds triumph in the mile.

The third Illinois double winner, George Walker, took both hurdle events, repeating his victories of last year. Walker's time in the 120-yard high hurdles was 14.2 seconds and in the 220-yard low hurdles 23.6 seconds.

Shot Put Below Record

The only other double winner of the meet was Bill Bangert, who admits to more interest in his career as an operatic baritone than as an athlete, with victories in the discus and shot put. The Purdue star's winning distance of 50 feet 10¼ inches in the shot was not good enough for the new Big Ten record that had been predicted for him, however.

SETTING A NEW WORLD'S RECORD FOR THE 440

Herb McKenley of Illinois breaking the tape after covering the distance in 46.2 seconds in the forty-sixth running of the Big Ten track and field championships at Champaign, Ill. Associated Press Wirephoto

Times and distances in 11 of this year's 14 events bettered the winning marks of last year. Only in the pole vault, two-mile run and 220-yard low hurdles did the athletes fail to surpass last season's performances.

Lloyd Labeach of Wisconsin, like McKenley, a native of Jamaica, was high scorer of the meet with a victory in the 100-yard dash, second in the 220, and a tie for second in the broad jump, for a total of 12½ points.

TRACK EVENTS

100-Yard Dash—Won by Lloyd Labeach, Wisconsin; second, Bill Mathis, Illinois; third, Jack Pierce, Illinois; fourth, Tex Ploen, Iowa; fifth, Richard Kelley, Minnesota. Time—0:9.6.

220-Yard Dash—Won by Herb McKenley, Illinois; second, Lloyd Labeach, Wisconsin; third, Jack Pierce, Illinois; fourth, Orval Johnson, Michigan; fifth, Bill Mathis, Illinois. Time—0:20.6.

440-Yard Run—Won by Herb McKenley, Illinois; second, Carl Ockert, Illinois; third, Hugh Short, Michigan; fourth, Carl Baynard, Ohio State; fifth, Marce Gonzalez, Illinois. Time—0:46.2 (betters world record, 0:46.4, by Ben Eastman in 1932 and Grover Klemmer in 1941; also betters Big Ten record, 0:47.4, by Binga Dismond of Chicago in 1916).

880-Yard Run—Won by Bob Rehberg, Illinois; second, Marve Whitfield, Ohio State; third, Bill Clifford, Ohio State; fourth, Herb Barten, Michigan; fifth, Elmer Prifogle, Indiana. Time—1:52.3.

One-Mile Run—Won by Bob Rehberg, Illinois; second, William Clifford, Ohio State; third, Tom Deal, Indiana; fourth, Bob Thomason, Michigan; fifth, Dave Bedell, Illinois. Time 4:17.3.

Two-Mile Run—Won by Earl Mitchell Indiana; second, Vic Twomey, Illinois; third, John Twomey, Illinois; fourth, Edward Johnson, Michigan; fifth, Donald Washington, Ohio State. Time—9:52.6.

120-Yard High Hurdles—Won by George Walker, Illinois; second, Tom Mitchell, Indiana; third, William Porter, Northwestern; fourth, Lloyd Duff, Ohio State; fifth, Robert Cranston, Wisconsin. Time—0:14.2.

220-Yard Low Hurdles—Won by George Walker, Illinois; second, William Porter, Northwestern; third, Ray Tharp, Minnesota; fourth, Lloyd Duff, Ohio State; fifth, Isaiah Johnson, Iowa. Time—0:23.6.

Mile Relay—Won by Illinois (Carl Ockert, Marce Gonzalez, Bob Rehberg, Herb McKenley); second, Michigan; third, Ohio State; fourth, Indiana; fifth, Iowa. Time—3:12.4 (New Big Ten record. Previous record, 3:14.7 by Michigan in 1939.)

FIELD EVENTS

Pole Vault—Won by William Moore, Northwestern (13 feet); tied for second, Bob Richards, Illinois, and Harry Cooper, Minnesota (12 feet 9 inches); fourth, Edwin Sewell, Northwestern (12 feet 6 inches); tied for fifth, Lloyd Duff, Ohio State; Bob Phelps, Illinois; James Alles, Ohio State and Alex Scott, Wisconsin (12 feet).

High Jump—Won by John Murphy, Ohio State (6 feet 3¾ inches); second, Dwight Eddleman, Illinois (6 feet 2¾ inches); tied for third, James Wade Minnesota; Warren Orendorff, Ohio State, and Dick Kilpatrick, Purdue (6 feet 1¾ inches).

Shot-Put—Won by Bill Bangert, Purdue (50 feet 10¼ inches); second, Charles Fonville, Michigan (50 feet 1¼ inches); third, Fortune Gordien, Minnesota (48 feet 2¼ inches); fourth, Emil Moldea, Ohio State (47 feet 10½ inches); fifth, George Ostroot, Michigan (47 feet 7 inches).

Broad Jump—Won by Paul Miller, Purdue (23 feet 6⅝ inches); tied for second, Lloyd Lamoise, Minnesota, and Lloyd Labeach, Wisconsin (23 feet 4½ inches); fourth, Ray Tharp, Minnesota (23 feet 3⅜ inches); fifth, Jewell Daily, Purdue (23 feet 2⅝ inches).

Negroes Refused Admittance to Hotel File Suit

Philadelphia, June 13. — (U.P.): Three officials of the Benjamin Franklin hotel today were charged with refusing accommodations to negro members of the New York university track team.

Cited in warrants issued by Magistrate Joseph M. Rainey were former Mayor W. Freeland Kendrick, president of the hotel corporation; Allen J. Levin, secretary, and Michael T. McGarry, sales manager.

The complaint was made by Maurice Callender, New York, who said that when the N. Y. U. team arrived here for the Penn relay carnival in April only its white members were admitted to the hotel, despite reservations for the entire squad. Callender listed other negro members of the team as his brother, Stanton, Homer Gillis, Milford Parker, Alexander Jordan and Frank Dixon.

McKenley's :46.7 best for quarter in Illinois' history

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Last week Herb McKenley ran the fastest 440-yard dash in the 59 years of the University of Illinois track history. Against Purdue, on a comparatively slow track on a raw day, the Jamaican flash negotiated the quarter mile in :46.7, three-tenths of a second off the world's record held jointly by big Ben Eastman and Grover Klemmer.

Prior McKenley's :46.7, the Illinois record time was :48.1 and was set by Bob Kelley in 1944. Before that, P. C. Sweet's :48.2 held good for 21 years.

McKenley and two of his teammates, George Walker and Bill Mathis; and Harrison Dillard, of Baldwin-Wallace college, Ohio, are scheduled to compete in the 25th annual track and field meet of the University of Minnesota June 21-22.

Tuskegee Romps In AAU Track Meet

BUFFALO, N. Y., Aug. 6—(AP)—Tuskegee Institute's leaping ladies captured their tenth title in the National Women's AAU Track and Field Championships before 7,000 spectators in All-High Stadiam Monday.

63i 1946 General

The Winner? Aw, Who Cares About Him?

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-17-46

White spectators at the recent Inter-Command track and field meet at Tokyo were obviously more interested in the fellows fighting for the remains of the spoils—far up the track—than they were in the winner of the 400-meter dash. They ignore Lt. Upshur Sams, former Tuskegee athlete as he breaks the tape 22 yards ahead of his nearest rival, winningin 50. 4 seconds and equalling his own Occupational Forces' mark for the distance. Sams also anchored the 1660-meter relay team to a record-breaking 3:30. victory in that event. He ran for the Japan squad which took the meet from entries from Hawaii, Korea, the Philippines and the Marianas, mostly white.

McKenley Sets World Mark in 300 Event at Randalls

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 7-13-46

NEW YORK — Herb McKenley, University of Illinois harrier, who established a world mark in the 440-yard run at the Big Ten meet last month, turned in another world mark here Tuesday when he negotiated the 300-yard event at Randalls Island Stadium in 29.8 seconds.

Elmore Harris, Shore A.C. runner, who kicked the tape ahead of McKenley in the 400-meter run in the National AAU meet at San Antonio, Texas, last week, pushed McKenley down the straight-away as the Jamaican clipped four-tenths of a second off the mark set by the late Charles Paddock on Apr. 23, 1921.

It was strictly a race between McKenley and Harris with the former breasting the tape only a scant stride ahead of the Shoreman with Sol McCants of the New York Pioneer Club a close third.

Ewell Beaten in 150

Philadelphia's Barney Ewell representing the Shanahan Catholic Club, was nosed out in the 150-yard event by Ed Conwell of Jersey City who took the distance in 14.4 seconds, and placed third in the 100-yard dash behind Conwell, who ran second to Tom Carey of the New York A.C., winning in 9.8 seconds.

McKenley came back in the half-mile and teamed with Robert Hylton, Conwell and Harris to carry the baton the distance in 1:28.4.

The 8-year-old, 16-pound shot put record of 70 feet ¼ inch set by William (Bill) Watson of Michigan in 1938, was bettered by Bernard Mayer of the Pioneer Club with a toss of 71 feet 7¼ inches.

Track Fans Mob World Record Breaker

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 7-13-46

Last week, at the Triborough Stadium, Randalls Island, New York, Herb McKenley, the star of the University of Illinois, set a new world's record for the 300-yard dash by negotiating the distance in 0:29.8 seconds. In doing so he bettered the mark of Charley Paddock established 25 years ago in California, and subsequently equalled by Cliff Burland in 1943. In the above photo track fans besieged the youthful Jamaican after the race in which he turned the tables on Elmore Harris who had defeated him in the Nationals at San Antonio, Texas. —(Photo by Chick Solomon).

Bronzed Thunderbolt, Tom Carey, Sprint Sensation

TOM CAREY, TRIPLE VICTOR: A little brown-skinned thunderbolt named Tom Carey, who sports the colors of the New York Pioneer Club staged a one man riot act by besting the field in the running of 75, 100 and 150-yard dashes over at Triborough Stadium, Randalls Island, last Tuesday evening. Little Tom completely overshadowed a field of national and world title holders which included Barney Ewell, Herbert Thompson Bill Martinson, Ed. Conwell and Joe Cianciabella. In the above photo, Carey is breasting the tape at the finish of the 100, just a whisker ahead of Conwell, third from left. The time 0:09.8.—(Chick Solomon Photo).

Tom Carey Wins Three AAU Dash Titles In Games Here

The sidewalks of Harlem, having produced a mite of just about everything else, have now produced an honest-to-goodness 18-kt. genuine big league track champion.

He's Tom Carey of Joe Yancey's crack Pioneer club and he established his superiority over the pick of the nation in the short dashes on the flat cinders out at Randalls Island Stadium in the abbreviated AAU twilight meet which served as a stage for the unveiling of Sweden's mile mite, Lennert Strand before the New York addicts.

Mr. Carey won permanent possession of Ed Conwell, Joe Cianca-bella, Barney Ewell, Bill Martinson and Herb Thompson, all of whom he topped in sweeping the sprint series — 75-100-150 yds — to spread eagle the field in the matter of individual performance.

Strand Is Easy Victor

Although it might have appeared to the casual observer as if every time he looked up Carey was rocketing through the finish tape actually there were some other performances there that had the railbirds talking to themselves. This might well have been called the meet in which the aces established their superiority beyond a question of a doubt. Lennert Strand, the latest import from the Scandinavian countries, turned in a 4:09 mile that whipped the pick of American milers, McMitchell, Quinn, Walsh et al with unbelievable ease. He never had to open the throttle wide so we still don't know what are the capacities of the man. He laid back for half the route and then took charge as though the rest of the field was made up of high schoolers.

Here's What Carey Won

Getting back to Carey, he shot down that straightaway as if he were jet propelled. There is no truth to the tale, however, that his opponents demanded that the officials inspect him to see if he DID have a motor concealed. He won the 75 in 0:07.5; the 100 in 0:09.8 and the 150 in 0:14.4. Place men were Martineson, Conwell and Ewell respectively.

Herb McKenley didn't get an opportunity to win three races from Elmore Harris but he did do a major production job on the one he did win. He sped to a new world record in the 300 which he won by six yards from the former Morgan College wonder boy. The lanky West Indian negotiated the route in a breath taking 0:29.8 thus clipping four tenths of a second from the mark set by Paddock and tied by Bourland. He led all the way and Harris never challenged too seriously. But then you don't expect an ordinary human to challenge a greyhound, do you? Even if Jesse Owens DID once try conclusions with a race horse.

The thrillingest race of the night was the initial leg of the half mile relay between two sets of Negro aces. In that heat McKenley and Carey all but scorched the track as they whizzed around the 220 yords almost neck and neck with the Illinois entry pulling away near the change spot. But the prospects of a great race fent a-glimmering when Greenidge pulled up lame on the third leg of the race and the meet sort of ended on an anti-climactic note. But that Carey, he was hotter than a pistol and travelling almost as fast as a bullet!

In this Corner

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y. 2-20-46

Time to Nail Discrimination On Bowling Alleys

Bill Mardo

Discrimination on the bowling alleys has long been underplayed merely because the game doesn't receive the publicity afforded other major sports.

Yet it has long been known that the American Bowling Congress doesn't allow Negro-white tourney competition. Now a West Coast reader brings to my attention the news that the International Woman's Bowling Congress recently barred tourney participation to Chinese American bowlers in the Westlake Ladies Handicap league at Los Angeles. 2-20-46

It seems the Chinese American girls, all of whom had relatives in the U.S. armed forces during the war, had engaged in 16 weeks of league competition when suddenly they were returned their enrollment fees and told they couldn't bowl in the tourney any longer.

This revolting procedure probably has its roots in the policy of the American Bowling Congress, which also bans Chinese Americans from alley-competition. In distant parts of this country, however, like Alaska, the ABC constitution does "permit the affiliation of male members of other races." How utterly decent of the ABC!

It's high time that such disgusting discriminatory policies were blasted from the bowling scene. For here is one of the most popular non-spectator sports in the nation. And bowling is gaining a larger active audience every day. It seems to me that all the neighborhood, civic and union organizations who regularly compete on the alleys, should alert themselves to the ABC's fascist-like constitution and demand that Negroes and all other sections of the minority groups be allowed full participation on the alleys and in tourneys.

James Bolyar, secretary of the Citizens Committee, 240 East Eagle St., Buffalo, N. Y., writes: New York Amsterdam News

"Dear Dan: There will be an International Bowling Tournament held in Buffalo, N. Y., March 14th to May 6th. We, the Citizens Committee of Buffalo, N. Y., wish you would ask your readers and all local Negro organizations and clubs to write the secretary of the American Bowling Congress, Mr. E. H. Baumgarten, Memorial Auditorium, Buffalo, 5, N. Y., to ELIMINATE THE ELIGIBILITY PARAGRAPH in the Constitution Rules and Registration Book, which reads: Quote Sec. 4, MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY FOR WHITES ONLY. Unquote . . . Since World War II was supposed to be fought for Democracy, we, the Citizens Committee, contend that the above clause is undemocratic and un-American. We will appreciate any support that you might give us in our effort to eliminate this hazard from any national sports as we claim that it is detrimental to us as a majority group." N.Y., N.Y.

Let's Score a 10-Strike Now

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed 3-20-46

By BILL MARDO

It requires but a strong push.

One mighty effort on the part of Buffalo's progressive movement—and Jimcrow will surely be blasted from the American bowling scene.

Here's the story as its been unfolding these past five days from the Erie City:

The Frederick Douglass Club of Buffalo's Communist Party learned last week that a Negro bowling team had been refused participation at the forty-third annual tourney of the American Bowling Congress. Thousands of teams from througout the United States, from Canada, Cuba, South America and Hawaii, are entered in the international meet. But the Jesse Clipper keglers from the American Legion Post 430, were refused an entry.

Nothing too surprising. It's the same old sordid story of Jimcrow. The American Bowling Congress has been Jomcrow since its inception—and not only Jimcrow—but anti any bowlers who aren't "pure white"—as witness its recent ban against a Chinese-American team in California.

But whereas there has never been any real protest waged against the ABC's arayan constitution—this time the Buffalo Communist Party undertook to highlight the vital issues involved. Last Thursday evening, the night the tourney got under way, fifty members of the Frederick Douglass Communist Club threw a picket line in front of the 74th Armory. The persistent chant was set up:

"For a good example of fascism, go inside . . .

"Fair play means all play. Let the Negro teams bowl. . . ."

The dignitaries for the evening's inaugural arrived. Republican Mayor Dowd crossed the picket line.

Senator James A. Mead's' car pulled up before the armory. Upon seeing the pickets, reading their signs and hearing their slogan, Mead aided the end-jimcrow fight by refusing to cross the picket line. The very next day he issued the following statement:

"I have never crossed a jimcrow picket line. In justice to the cause for which I have been contending during my years of public service, I certainly would not do it last night. The fact that the event took place in a state building and that our state has an anti-discrimination law, serve to emphasize the conditions which prompted the action I took.

"I am hopeful that the ABC leadership will amend its rules without delay to open the contests to all qualified players," Mead concluded.

Wed 3-20-46

Needless to say, the fight for Negro rights in one of America's most popular mass sports, swept onto the front pages of every influential paper in Buffalo. The Frederick Douglass Club of the Communist Party was recognized as the initiators of this campaign. It's petitions are being widely reprinted throughout Buffalo. Today, it isn't the progress of the various teams or a discussion of high-scorers, that grips Buffalo. Instead, the people, the papers, the entire population is talking about the Communist picket line in front of the Armory; about the fact that a Negro team was denied entry to the tourney.

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So this then, is the background to the Buffalo prairie fire that promises to grow in intensity until jimcrow is burned out of the bowling pastime.

There's little doubt that with the proper organization and support, a real victory can be chalked up here. The American Bowling Congress officials meet April 5 in Buffalo for their annual parley. If the initial protest and indignation which today sweeps Buffalo can be developed to peak pitch; if the Buffalo labor movement throws its full weight behind this issue; if the great majority of Buffalo's population and the bowlers competing in the tourney can be urged to register their protest to ABC magnates—then it's not unlikely that a foul old law will be wiped off the ABC constitution, and that bowling will take its place alongside the many other sports that today know no jimcrow bounds.

George O. Obehauer, secretary of the host Buffalo Bowling Association, told a Communist Party delegation: "Nothing can be done until the ABC meets on April 5."

Perhaps the bowling bigwigs can't do anything until then—but between now and April 5 there's a golden opportunity to win a democratic victory for the Negro people. Not only in Buffalo, but throughout the nation.

Let the progressive movement score a ten-strike NOW!

Buffalo CP Hits Jimcrow Ban At Bowling Games

Daily Worker Thursday N.Y. N.Y.

BUFFALO, March 13.—The Jesse Clipper Bowling Team has been refused admittance into the International Bowling Tournament, to be initiated here today at the 74th Armory, because it is a Negro club.

The Frederick Douglass Club of the Communist Party of Buffalo, N. Y., has called upon all workers and progressives to protest this discrimination to Mr. Obenaur, the secretary of the Buffalo Bowling Association. 3-14-46

In a statement released to the press, the Communist Party club here said: Thursday

"The Negro people with their white allies have weakened Jimcrow in baseball. We must destroy it in all sports. Reactionary forces are attempting to increase the cost of living and begin an imperialist war. This is explained in the slaying of the two Negro GI's, in Freeport, L. I., the terror against the Negro people of Columbia, Tenn. They will use any means they can to divide the workers." N.Y. N.Y.

Protests should be mailed to Mr Obenaur, 74th Armory, Niagara and Connecticut Avenues—or phone GA 7474. Daily Worker

Apology Made for Conn. Bowl Bias

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn.—Acceptance of a public apology by officials of the local Barnum Bowling Alleys for an insult directed at Benjamin Lane of the Milford High School bowling team, was announced recently.

The apology to Lane was accepted by John Lancaster, president of the local branch of the NAACP, and Louis Lichtenstein, white, coach of the Milford team.

Lane was refused admission last month to the alleys by the manager, William Ehlert, "because he was colored." He had appeared there along with other members of the school team. Sat 3-23-46

Harry T. Nichols, white, owner of the alleys, issued the apology and called on his manager to make a clarifying statement. Ehlert said, "I feel ashamed now and fully realize my wrongdoing."

Bowling Congress Keeps Bias Rule

Afro American Baltimore, Md. Sat 4-20-46

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The American Bowling Congress which closed here Apr. 5, failed to keep the pledge of George Obenauer, secretary, New York Bowling Association, that the racial bias policy of the organization would be discussed at one of the business sessions.

The clause in the eligibility regulations that "only white males" could compete in the contests, was not clarified. The delegates said it was not properly understood, and it would take too much time to discuss it.

Clarification of the clause was sent back to the executive committee which meets Apr. 5, 1947, in Los Angeles.

CIO Plea Ignored

A telegram urging discontinuance of the discriminatory clause by Walter P. Reuther, president, UAW-CIO, was not read to the Congress.

Local No. 600 of the UAW-CIO of the Ford Motor Co. sent three delegates to the Congress, two white and one colored, but the latter, Balwin M. Morris was barred with other colored representatives.

James B. Boyar, secretary of the citizens committee, said his group and others will ask State Attorney General Goldstein who is responsible for renting a state building to a prejudiced group as the American Bowling Congress.

BOWLING TOURNAMENT WINNERS

Robert C. Adams, captain of the Eli Clothiers men's team, winners of the five-man event and all members of the Chicago police force, and Rachel Ridley, women's singles game champion, photographed after the prizes in the fourth annual Chicago handicap bowling tournament had been distributed Sunday night at the Garfield Bowl. The tournament was sponsored by the Chicago Bowling Senate.—Gushiniere photo.

Jim Crow Fight Faces Bowling

PM New York, N.Y.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 20.—Elmer Baumgarten, secretary of the American Bowling Congress, said yesterday that two proposals for changes in the organization's constitution limiting membership to "the white male sex" were being prepared for introduction at the annual delegate meeting in Los Angeles next April.

Baumgarten said one of the proposals came from Hawaiians asking that members of the brown and yellow races be permitted to compete in ABC tournaments. The other, submitted from Brooklyn, asked membership for Negroes, Baumgarten said. 12-20-46

A resolution informing the ABC it would withdraw from participation in future tournaments unless Negroes were permitted to compete was adopted by the executive board of the United Automobile Workers (CIO).

Lily-White Buffalo Bowl Goes On, Awaits April 5 Meeting to Decide Jim-Crow Issue

Afro-American, Baltimore Md. 3-30-46

BUFFALO, N.Y.—The executive committee of the American Bowling Congress will meet Apr. 5 to decide whether it will change its constitution to admit colored bowlers in its contests.

Meantime the congress is holding its 43rd annual session here at the 74th Armory with all white bowlers. Members of the Frederick Douglass Club of the Communist Party picketed the opening session of the congress last week.

This is the same picket line which Senator James Mead (Dem., N.Y.) refused to cross. He was to have been the principal speaker.

The Jesse Clipper American Legion team, which was denied admission to the contest, this week declined an offer of some 40 white Legion teams to boycott the tournament, Thursday evening.

Dewitt Lee, business manager for the Clipper team, insisted that the white teams bowl. He said the plan was not to stop the tournament, but to have full participation in it.

"If we wanted to stop the tournament, we would have gotten an injunction against the ABC when the alleys were being built," Lee said.

However, the Clipper team went to the armory Thursday to cheer the other legion teams. The ten members wore their uniform **bowling sweaters and were greeted lustily by other bowlers.**

Vice-Commander Bill Osborne of Legion Post 63 from Lackawanna, told the AFRO: "I can't see any reason why the Jesse Clipper team should not bowl with us. It is very unfortunate when any Legion affair is given without their representation."

Art Coley, reporter for the Bowlers' Journal and Billiard Review, said "Jesse Clipper was asleep at the post. Otherwise they would have had their application in for sanction. Then they could use the New York State discrimination rule to enter the tourney."

Jesse Payne, captain of the Clipper team, in refuting this statement, said that he had sent in the $200 sanction fee last October but that it was returned to him.

"A second time, we sent the $25 entry fee at the suggestion of Ed Dunn, president of the American Bowling Association. But that was returned, too."

Tommy Huitt, a Buffalo councilman and referee of big-time football, was on his way to bowl with the Buffalo Athletic Club team when he stopped to remark: "Colored persons should be able to participate in any sporting event."

Capt. E. R. Brecher, of the USMC from Texas, said, "I don't think that the rule was aimed at colored people when it was written 60 years ago. **Sure the Jesse Clipper team should be allowed to bowl."**

Article 2, section 4 of the constitution of the Women's International Bowling Congress, is similar to the objectional rule in the men's constitution. It states:

The object is "to promote . . . an annual bowling congress tournament for women of the white female sex." This is re-emphasized in article 3 on membership and organization: "Its membership shall be composed of individual bowlers of the white female sex."

At the end of the article is the Golden Rule "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Mayor Dowd of Buffalo in welcoming some 25,000 bowlers to the annual bowling contest appealed to the organization to remove all possibilities of discrimination against any citizens because of race.

However, Julian J. Reiss, a member of the New York State anti-discrimination commission believes that this appeal is helpless because the legalities of the A.B.C. prevent any rule changes this year.

"Under the constitution, amendments must be proposed before December 5 so that local groups throughout the country will have four months to consider them before the governing board meets," **Reiss declared.**

CP Hits Ten-Strike Against Bowling Ban

Daily Worker, New York

The Buffalo Communist Party really hit a ten-strike when it opened a campaign last week to end the jimcrow policy of the American Bowling Congress now engaged in a national tourney in that city. [At right is is a picture of a CP picket line at the 74th Armory, site of the tourney.]

When the tourney officials refused to permit the Jesse Clipper Bowling team, an all-Negro club, from entering the games, members of the Frederick Douglass CP Club organized picket lines, protest delegations and a wide campaign to remove the ban. mon. 3.18.46

The Daily Worker was the first paper in the country to break the hitherto hush-hush gag on tourney Jimcrow news. The Daily ran a story on March 13 reporting the CP protest to George A. Obenauer, secretary of the Buffalo Bowling Association.

Constant pressure against the Bowling Congress has forced nationwide press attention on the tourney's undemocratic policy.

He urged the American Bowling Congress leaders to change their rules which deny Negro bowlers the right to participate.

Sen. James Mead refused to cross the picket line last Friday night. The Senator, scheduled to participate in the opening of the Bowling Congress tournament, saw the pickets and turned back. He told reporters: that "I have never crossed a Jimcrow picket line."

63j 1946

Labor Delegation to Urge ABC End Jimcrow in Bowling Today

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Fri. 4-5-46

Two large CIO delegations and another group representing many progressive organizations, will at 2 p.m. today meet with officials of the American Bowling Congress at Buffalo to demand an end of Jimcrow in bowling.

Some 20 top CIO leaders in Buffalo, plus many local labor spokesmen from steel and aircraft, will comprise the trade union delegation to visit the ABC parley now convened in Buffalo's Hotel Statler. The other large-sized delegation to demand the end of discrimination in American bowling, will include representatives from the Urban League, the NAACP, the Federal Council of Churches, the YWCA, the Communist Party, American Labor Party, AFL representatives, and many other groups.

Today's delegations climax several weeks of activity, initiated by the Buffalo Communist Party, to focus nationwide attention upon the vicious "male whites only" clause in the constitution of the American Bowling Congress. When the ABC banned the Jesse Clipper Negro keglers from its international tourney at Buffalo several weeks ago, the Communist Party immediately threw a picket line in front of Buffalo's 74th Armory and this action drew considerable comment from the press and many public officials—and so served to rekindle awareness of the Hitler-like color ban which the ABC wrote into its rules over half a century ago.

Since the Communist Party's picket line, such noted figures as Sen. James Mead and others have urged the ABC to drop its Jimcrow clause and make bowling truly an American game.

Fri. 4-5-46

The ABC bigwigs have been swamped with protests from labor throughout the nation. Here in New York yesterday, the Furriers Joint Council added its voice to the loud demand that Jimcrow must go.

"On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Furriers Joint Council," read the telegram to the ABC, "we strongly protest against the continued operation of a clause in your constitution which restricts membership in your organization to 'white males.' We urge that your deliberations delete this Jimcrow, un-American restriction and open your books to all Americans regardless of race, color or creed."

Over 2,000 members of the CIO's Fur Floor Boys, Local 125, urged the ABC parley: "In the name of democracy we call upon you to remove the un-American 'male white' clause from the ABC constitution." Fri. 4-5-46

Local 65, in the name of 15,000 militant unionists, urged the ABC "to end the alien Jimcrow ban in your organization and open your books to all Americans of every race, creed and color."

And the 14th A.D. of the American Labor Party yesterday wired the American Bowling Congress meeting:

"We unanimously condemn your barring of Negro teams from participation in tournament play as undemocratic and un-American.

"We demand you rescind the Jimcrow rule in your ABC constitution."

CIO THROWS BOWLING BALL AT JIM CROW IN STATE MEET

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 6-29-46

Jim Crow likes to go bowling, too.

But Jim found himself with the wrong crowd this time — at the Wisconsin state CIO bowling congress.

Result—they threw the bowling ball at the "dim-wit."

It all came about when the member unions of the state decided to hold a state-wide bowling contest recently.

Unaware that the American Bowling Congress, which controls all tournament bowling in the country, had a clause restricting membership to "men of the white male sex" the union committee had them take over the tournament.

When the ABC saw that among the more than 2,500 entries there were quite a number of Negroes, they immediately reneged, saying they could only give their "moral support" to the tournament.

Pressure by the Wisconsin CIO has resulted in the state FEPC passing a resolution condemning the ABC and notification to the congress that they are in "direct contravention of the purposes of the Fair Employment Act of Wisconsin."

DELETES 'NEGRO' FROM NAME OF BOWLING ASS'N

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 7-6-46

By WILL ROBINSON

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Delegates to the seventh annual convention of the National Negro Bowling Association voted to delete the word "Negro" from the name of the organization and agreed that each of the eleven local Senates should receive half of the $1 membership dues paid annually to the NBA.

The two-day session was held here Saturday and Sunday in Spring Street YMCA.

All of the original organizers of the association were voted life memberships.

Cleveland was awarded the sixth annual national tournament, scheduled to be held the third week of April, 1947. Buffalo will be host to the next convention.

All officers were re-elected for a second term. They are P. A. Orr of Chicago, president; Martin E. Kelly, Cleveland, vice president; John E. Anderson, Detroit, secretary, and Mary L. Wilkes, Cleveland, treasurer.

Auto Workers to Press Fight on ABC Jimcrow

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Fri. 12-27-46

DETROIT, Dec. 26.—The UAW-CIO will not sponsor bowling teams in the 1947-48 season in leagues and tournaments of the American Bowling Congress unless by that time the ABC has put an end to its discriminatory practices against Negro bowlers. This action taken at the recent International Executive Board meeting was in answer to hundreds of resolutions, requests and delegations to individual board members over a long period of time by auto workers.

Thousands of bowling teams exist in the auto workers union and segregation is in force because bowling alley proprietors will not recognize any average unless it is gotten in tournaments under ABC auspices. And these bowling alley owners will not allow mixed teams in tournaments.

The UAW Executive Board instructed its Fair Practices Department to open negotiations with the American Bowling Congress seeking to eliminate from the Congress constitution the discrimination clause which reads as follows:

"City Associations shall be composed of teams with a membership of three or more individuals of the white male sex. . . ." "In outlying possessions of the United States or in foreign countries, city associations may permit the affiliation of other races, provided the board of directors of the city association decides, but in participation of any, except members of the white male sex, it is restricted to league and turnament play under the jurisdiction of their own city association."

The UAW Board declared that if the ABC will not remove this obnoxious section of its constitution then the union will sever from the ABC the relationship of all bowling teams sponsored in the name of or by the UAW and its locals.

This year at the ABC Congress in the city of Buffalo, a delegation of Negro and white bowlers from Ford local 600, UAW, went to the convention to fight this discrimination and participate in the bowling sessions.

First the Negro members of the delegation were not even allowed in the hall where the Congress was in session either to speak or to bowl. The white Ford local delegates got in, sought to take the floor and were refused. A picket line was thrown around the ABC convention by the Buffalo Communist Party, protesting the discrimination. This action by the Buffalo Communist Party was reported to Local 600 by the delegates and loud applause greeted the action when it was reported in the union General Council body.

This statement of a new policy towards ABC by the leaders of 850,000 auto workers is long overdue. For several years the UAW has been trying through top negotiations to break down this discrimination by this outfit.

John Gallo, Recreational Director of Ford Local 600, UAW, when asked about the Board's policy towards ABC said: "**It's about time that we began doing something about this scandalous discrimination practiced under the authority of ABC in all the bowling alleys of American cities and towns. But I think that we will have to go into a real national campaign on this. It will not be enough if the Fair Practices Committee of the UAW begins again for the umpteenth time negotiations with that outfit. It has to be conducted along with the whole national united Labor movement going into the campaign. We have to set up in each community citizens committees against Discrimination in Bowling, made up of all sections of labor, churches, fraternal groups, civic and youth organizations along with the bowling teams.** 12-27-46

"**Mixed bowling teams must go to the alleys and demand the right to participate in regular tournaments and if the alley owners refuse then we start picketing. I would urge now the preparation for the ABC Congress. See to it that hundreds of Negro and white delegates go there and demand the right of participation and if denied then let's do like the Buffalo Communits Party did last year, picket the Congress with thousands of bowlers against dis-**

UAW Parley Hits Jimcrow Bowling Body

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
Fri. 12-20-46

The Executive Board of the UAW-CIO has served notice to the American Bowling Congress that the auto workers will not participate or encourage participation in ABC tourneys unless the Jimcrow body lifts its restrictions on Negro bowlers. This action was taken in a resolution passed at the UAW quarterly meeting here at the Hotel Picadilly.

NOTE TO NAT HOLMAN: Oklahoma knocked off Wisconsin 56-40 the other night. Now Wisconsin is the same team that just beat Notre Dame. . . . How good does that make Oklahoma? The Beavers will find out when Oklahoma comes into the Garden to do battle with them. And here the CCNY cagers thought all they had to worry about was NYU!

SUICIDE

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 98

Brutal Slayer Kills Himself

The Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

NORFOLK, VA., Nov. 28.—(AP)—The bodies of two fellow workers on a construction job, one white and the other a Negro, were found in the basement of an unfinished house early today and City Coroner C. D. J. MacDonald, who investigated, said they were the victims of a murder and suicide.

MacDonald said Park Policeman J. F. MacDaniels found the body of Lloyd Henry Browder, 36, a white man, hanging from the basement rafter by a window sash cord, while the body of 66-year-old George Alexander Goode, Negro, was on the floor nearby, beaten almost beyond recognition. *Fri. 11-29-46*

MacDaniels found the bodies after he had gone in search of Browder in response to a call from Browder's wife at 1:30 a.m. today reporting her husband had not arrived home from work.

Detective Ernest M. Towe, coroner's investigator, said Goode had apparently been beaten with an eight-pound sledge hammer which was found on the premises; his head, hands and heels were badly mangled from the attack. He reported the men had apparently been preparing to leave their work. Browder had changed from work clothes into street clothing and Goode ovbiously, officers said, was in the act of changing from his work clothes at the time of the attack.

An inquest was set for tomorrow and meanwhile Norfolk police were investigating to determine a motive for the deaths. Lt. C. J. Taylor, of the Norfolk Detective Bureau, said circumstances indicated that "Goode's slayer "must have gone crazy." An inquest will be held tomorrow.

Druggist Slays White Sweetheart Takes Life

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CHESTER, Pa.—The illicit love affair of a prominent pharmacist was climaxed tragically, last week, when he slew his sweetheart and then took his own life in the rear room of Miller's Pharmacy, Third and Edwards Sts. *Sat. 1-4-47*

The slain woman, a comely white blonde, was Miss Ann Louise Brantley, 37, native of Georgia, while the suicide victim was William P. Harris, estranged from his wife.

The woman's body, clothed in a nightgown and bathrobe, with a bullet wound in the chest, was found by police lying a pool of blood on the prescription room floor.

The body of Harris, slouched in a corner with a revolver clutched in his hand, was found several feet away. His right temple and stomach had been pierced by bullets.

According to neighbors, the couple had resided in an apartment above the drug store for the last five years and were thought to be married until last summer.

Divorce Suit Filed

It was then that Mrs. Odessa Hale Harris, wife of the pharmacist, filed suit for divorce from Harris, alleging desertion. However, she continued to live at an apartment next door, at 1703 W. Third St.

Police quoted Miss Madeline Biddle, a clerk at the pharmacy who roomed in the apartment, as saying that the suicide-murder climaxed an all-night quarrel between Harris and Miss Brantley.

Infidelity Hinted

Miss Biddle said that the dispute had been about a month-long absence by Miss Brantley, according to police. She reportedly had spent the time in New Haven Conn., "with another man."

The clerk also told police that she tried to persuade Miss Brantley not to folow Harris down to the store when he left to open it up.

Five Shots Fired

Soon after Miss Brantley followed the pharmacist, Miss Biddle said she heard five pistol shots. Frightened, she ran to a nearby taproom to notify police, she stated.

Mr. Harris lived only a short time after being admitted to Chester Hospital. Miss Brantley was dead when admitted.

Man Had Grown Children

Services for Harris were conducted later in the week at Hunt's funeral estabishment. The Rev. J. P. Barbour, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, officiated.

Mrs. Harris, her son, William, 23; and daughter, Mrs. Gloria Daniels; attended the services, which attracted an overflow of curious spectators inside and outside of the funeral chapel.

Brother Buries Woman

A younger son, Robert, 20, did not attend. A member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Harris was a graduate of Howard University.

Miss Brantley's body was claimed by a brother listed as A. Saunders of Atlanta. Services for her were held Saturday; and she tend.

64 1946

Former Kansas Citian Slain on West Coast

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

Fri. 10-25-46

BERKELEY.—Murder and suicide marked the violent death Wednesday, October 16, of a former Kansas Citian who had made her home on the West Coast during the past four years.

Tragedy wrote a climax to a share-the-ride-to-work arrangement between two employes of the Oakland Naval Supply Base, when Miss Dorothy Palmer, 25 years old, was shot twice through the head in her room at 985 63rd St., Berkeley.

Her assailant, Samuel Bouie, 36 years old, 1032 Wood St., Oakland, then shot himself through the mouth. He died three hours later in Berkeley General hospital.

The dead woman's nephew, Burgess Watkins, 22 years old, told police that Bouie had been calling for Miss Palmer every morning around 6:10 for the past year to take her to work at the Naval Supply Base.

Watkins, who occupied a room across the hall from his aunt, was awakened the morning of the shooting at 6:15 by the sound of two shots, fired closely together, and rapidly followed by a third.

The shots also awakened the young man's father, Benjamin F. Watkins, of the same address, who went to investigate and found his sister-in-law lying dead on her bed, drenched in blood. Bouie lay on the floor near a table which had been overturned by his fall. The gun lay on the floor.

Dorothy Palmer, who had worked at the Naval Supply Depot for the past three years, was born in Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 30, 1919. She was a graduate of Lincoln high school of that city.

Surviving her are her mother, Mrs. Pearl Jackson, 914 Folger street, Berkeley, who has lived in California six years; a sister, Mrs. Marvel Armstrong, 741½ Oakland avenue, Kansas City, Kas., and an aunt, Mrs. Mabel Goodwill of Kansas City, Mo.

Bouie is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lubertha Bouie of the Wood street address in Oakland.

The body of Miss Palmer was taken to the Baker-Taylor Mortuary where funeral arrangements had not been made at press time. Bouie's body was taken to the Hudson Funeral Home. An inquest into the dual slaying is pending.

Death in Air Requiem of Love

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Husband Crashes Near Estranged Wife's Home

Sat. 10-19-46

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (ANP)—Despondency is said to be responsible for the airplane death last week of Raymond J. P. Heraux near the home of his estranged wife, Mrs. Harriet (Daisy Richardson Heraux.

A note found in Heraux's pocket gave police the impression the accident was deliberate suicide. It read: "In case of accident notify Martin, 85 West Post Road, White Plains, N.Y."

Crashes in Alley

Heraux, who was granted a pilot's license on June 19, crashed his small rented plane into a nine-foot alleyway between two buildings in the heart of this city, near the home of Mrs. Zelma Martin.

His wife, with whom he had tried to effect a reconciliation, lives in Mrs. Martin's home and both are employed as telephone operators in the White Plains exchange of the New York Telephone Company.

Police Theorized that Heraux had attempted to kill himself in the crash and injure or kill his wife also, but at the last minute had cut the engine to prevent injuring her. *Afro-American*

Explosion Averted

Had he not cut the motor of his plane when he went into the fatal spin, there would have been a terrific explosion that probably would have set his wife's home afire, police declared. *Baltimore*

Mrs. Heraux, the former wife of Dr. H. Binga Dismond, prominent New York physician, met Heraux in Haiti after divorcing the former. They came to New York and Heraux obtained employment as a bookkeeper for the Moore-McCormack Lines, Inc., there. *Sat. 10-19-46*

Body Of Suicide Recovered From Detroit River

Chronicle Detroit, Mich.

Police listed as suicide the case of a 62-year-old feed company employee whose body was found floating in the Detroit river last week. *Sat.*

The body was identified as that of Henry Hesson, 1343 Farnsworth, a native of Strachey, Ont., who had lived in Detroit for the past 47 years. *8-3-46*

H. Hesson

According to police, Frank Durante, watchman of a coal dock at the foot of Riopelle, saw the body floating in the river and called the police. The body, badly decomposed, was taken from the river at the foot of Woodward.

An autopsy report disclosed that death was caused by drowning. Police listed the case as a suicide. The body was identified at the morgue by Harold Gardner, 1028 Chene, and John Gardner, 1036 Chene. *The Chronicle Detroit Mich.*

Hesson was at first identified by passport papers found on his person. A daughter, Helena Gardner, 1028 Chene, told the Chronicle that she had not seen her father since last Saturday and that he had suffered from a heart ailment. *9-3-46*

Hesson is survived by two brothers, a son, Wilfred, 23, now serving in Germany; a daughter, Mrs. Helena Gardner and a sister, Mrs. Reggie Moore of Port Huron.

Kills Self

Chronicle Detroit, Mich.

Mrs. Annie Lois Turner, 24, 957 Brady, died early Monday at Receiving Hospital after she had swallowed six ounces of lysol following a misunderstanding with her boy friend, identified as Leroy Cole, address unknown, late Sunday. Rushed to the hospital, Mrs. Turner never regained consciousness. Friends disclosed that after taking the poison she refused the efforts of others to give her an antidote. She was employed by a cleaning company. She had been separated from her husband for several years, friends stated. *Sat. 9-28-46*

Despondent Girl Ends Life, Takes Drink Of Lysol

Chronicle Detroit, Mich.

Sat. 9-28-46

A 24-year-old wife, described by a close friend as being despondent over a row with her boy friend, swallowed six ounces of lysol in her room at 957 Brady Sunday.

Rushed to Receiving Hospital, Mrs. Annie Lois Turner died at 4:30 a.m. Monday.

According to Mrs. Carrie Flowers, with whom Mrs. Turner lived for three weeks, the despondent young woman returned home carrying a small package and went directly to her room. Later, she carried two glasses to her room. A few minutes later, so Mrs. Flowers stated, Mrs. Turner ran from her room screaming that she had taken poison.

Mrs. Turner refused to allow anyone to give her an antidote by clenching her teeth and refusing to respond to attempts to aid her.

It was also revealed that Mrs. Turner, separated from her husband for several years, had visited her boy friend, Leroy Cole, a short time before returning home and taking the poison.

Friends disclosed that Mrs. Turner had been drinking heavily and had thrown herself in front of an oncoming automobile, barely escaped being injured.

She is survived by a husband and a sister, who resides in St. Louis.

SAVED BY BOY, MAN SUCCEEDS IN TAKING LIFE

The Chronicle Detroit Mich.

Sat. 9-7-46

Youngster Pulls Him From River In His First Attempt

A 17-year-old youth was credited this week with saving the life of a 21-year-old youth who later jumped into the Detroit River and was drowned while men pitching horse shoes nearby refused to aid in his rescue.

James Ogletree

James Ogletree, 639 E. Adams, told the Chronicle that he and another friend, James Anderson, 1932 St. Antoine, were returning from the city dog pound when they saw a man struggling in the water.

Ogletree stated that he jumped into the river and pulled the young man out. He was identified through a billfold found near the scene as Anthony Sacco, 2660 Buchanan.

Rescues Man

"I saw the man in the water. I thought that he had slipped in, so I dived in and pulled him out on the bank," Ogletree told The Chronicle. "After a few minutes, he began to smile but didn't say anything."

Ogletree stated that he went nearby where several men were pitching horseshoes and told them of the incident, but they ignored him.

"Returning to the scene where Sacco was lying when I went for help, I noticed he had again jumped into the water and went down for the last time as I looked on."

One of the men who was pitching horseshoes then called police. Ogletree said the body was taken from the river an hour later.

Ogletree is a member of Northwestern High School's ROTC and enters the 11B grade on Sept. 9. Explaining why he happened to be in the vicinity at the time Saturday, Ogletree said, "Often I visit the dog pound."

"They said," Ogletree commented, "that the man was probably having fun and to forget it."

However, when Ogletree turned to the river bank he saw that Sacco was again in the water and going down for the last time. The men pitching horseshoes then called the police. The harbormaster's division recovered Sacco's body from the river.

22-YEAR-OLD WIFE LEAVES DEATH NOTE

The Chronicle

Gun Found On Bed Near Girl's Right Hand

Detroit Michigan

Funeral services for a young woman who was found dead in bed by her mother, Mrs. Florence Webb last Tuesday were held at one o'clock Wednesday, from Ebenezer AME church, where she was a member.

Although police investigators declared the death of Douglass L. Littsey, 22, of 79 E. Canfield, a suicide, members of her family view it as mysterious. *Sat. 7-6-46*

Found In Bed

Willis Webb, father, told the Chronicle that his wife called him when she discovered Douglass in bed, sweating profusely. On arrival, Willis said, "I noticed her eyes blinkering, indicating that she was then dying. I called police from the Canfield station, which is next door, and she was dead when they arrived."

In the room on the dresser was found a note, which said, "I'm tired of living as I am not getting enough out of life." According to Mrs. Webb, "handwriting experts checked the note with other writings of Douglas, and reported that all of it, except one or two words appeared to be Mrs. Littsey's.

Mrs. Littsey's husband, who is a U. S. Rubber employee ordinarily arrives home about 8 o'clock every morning but on last Tuesday morning, failed to come home until about 10 o'clock p.m. When he came home, Mr. Webb said "she asked him if he knew of his wife's death." He said yes, his mother had informed him about 9 o'clock that night that she was dead, but he didn't come home then because he did not believe it." *Sat. 7-6-46*

The pistol found near on the bed was a .32 calibre (Spanish) Mrs. Webb also said that her daughter, to her knowledge nor her son-in-law did not own the pistol.

Mrs. Webb told the Chronicle, even though her daughter might have committed suicide she could think of no reason why she did and that it was hard for her to believe that she did.

Mrs. Littsey was employed by the Budd Wheel company as an inspector. She was married last April 6 and was a member of the Monogram club of Ebenezer AME Church.

Washington Doctor Takes Own Life After Illness

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-17-46

WASHINGTON

Dr. Ralph C. Wright, 39, for 12 years a Washington physician, was found dead from a self-inflicted bullet wound early Friday morning at his home, 514 T St., N.W.

A certificate of suicide was issued in the physician's death Saturday by Deputy Coroner Christopher Murphy.

Despondency over a lingering illness was blamed for the cause of Dr. Wright's self-destruction.

Funeral services were held Monday at the McGuire Funeral Home followed by burial at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Found by Wife

The physician, who had returned earlier in the week from a vacation at Highland Beach, Md., was found in an unconscious condition in the second floor bedroom of his home, two hours after he had retired Friday night, after informing his wife, Caroline, that he was feeling "despondent and irritable."

A .38 caliber pistol was found near his right hand. Dr. K. Albert Harden, 1300 block Girard St. N.W., who was summoned immediately, pronounced him dead upon arrival on the tragic scene.

Scion of one of Washington's oldest families, he had been in ill health for more than a year.

On Freedmen's Staff

A native Washingtonian, Dr. Wright was a graduate of Dunbar High School, class of 1924. He was a basketball and track star as well as honor student at Dunbar.

He later attended Williams College in Massachusetts and completed his premedical education at Lincoln University. He graduated from the Howard University School of Medicine in 1933 and interned at Freedmen's Hospital.

At the time of his sudden death he was a member of Freedmen's Hospital staff, as an ear, nose and throat specialist. He was a member of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity. *Baltimore, Md.*

Three Survivors

Besides his wife, Caroline, whom he married in 1935, Dr. Wright is survived by an infant daughter Carol Ann, and his mother, Mrs. Gertrude Wright, of the same St. address.

Man Sentences Himself To Death

Nigerian Spokesman

THE fish traders at the Government Marina here witnessed the arrival of two corpses here yesterday morning, November 14, in a canoe under the escort of the deceased relatives.

The dead bodies were reported to be Aghanti and Ajani both from the Aguleri Otu.

Nigeria, Optitshra, W. Afr.

It is alleged that some three days ago a quarrel broke out between Aghanti and Ajani which resulted in a fight. *Onitsha, W. Afr.*

Later Aghanti hit Ajani with a club on the head of which he died the following day. *Fri.*

Aghanti on hearing the sad news of his antagonist, jumped into the bush where his people after a long search found he had committed suicide by hanging. *11-15-46*

The relatives of the two deceased persons brought hem down here in a canoe and reported the matter to the Police, whilst the dead bodies were removed to the public mortuary.

It is understood the Police are pursuing investigation.

Ill Health Held As Suicide Cause

The Call

Kansas City, Mo.

Thornton Bibbs Was To Go to Wadsworth

Sat. 12-27-46

Ill health is thought to be the reason for the suicide of Thornton Bibbs, 47, 343 Nebraska Ave., Saturday afternoon, Dec. 14.

According to Mrs. Ada Bibbs, widow of the deceased, he had gone upstairs in their home to get some papers when she heard a noise like a gun shot. She called in her neighbor, Walter Jordan, who found the dead man on his bedroom floor with a gun shot wound in the right side of his head and his gun by his body.

Bibbs had been ill for some time and was scheduled to enter Wadsworth hospital, Jan. 3, 1947.

Unable To Say "I Love You" He Killed Himself

Nigerian Spokesman

Onitsha Nigeria, West Africa

LONDON.— Because he was unable to tell a girl that he lov d and wanted to marry her a man poisoned hims lf and died before her at the snack-bar (e ti g house) she work d as a waitress

The man, Roland Maynard, 27, had ask d her one night:

"Do you think I might meet you sometime?"

Hurrying to get home, the girl 17-year-old Pat Sutton had told him: *Thurs. 8-22-46*

"I can't stay."

At the inquest held in Battersea, it was revealed that Maynard had been mentally upset through his love for Patricia

Foreman Leonard Gill at the poison factory where Maynard was working said to the coroner:

"He was too shy to tell her ab ut his love."

Bystanders Shocked By Noonday Killings

The Chronicle *Detroit, Mich.*

Sat. 10-19-46

An argument that evidently started while a man and his wife were riding in an automobile early Monday, ended in the man stabbing the woman to death and then killing himself.

Witnesses of the double tragedy said the two persons later identified as John Henry and Eva Robertson, 2925 Waterloo, stopped the car in front of 3137 Clinton at approximately 12:50 p.m.

Uses Tire Iron

Robertson, according to the witnesses, began beating his wife over the head with an automobile tire iron, knocking her from the automobile to the sidewalk. He got out of the car and stabbed her as she lay on the sidewalk.

John Sharp, 3136 Clinton, a witness who was standing nearby, told police that Robertson threatened to stab him if he interfered. He flourished the knife at the crowd which had gathered, shouted "Goodbye," and then slashed his own throat.

Wife Mutilated

Both victims, according to the police reports, were dead upon admittance to the Receiving Hospital. Mrs. Robertson suffered from a deep wound in the right side of the heart, lacerations of the head and face and multiple bruises of the chest. Robertson suffered a deep gash of the neck.

Carolina Doctor Takes Own Life

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON, N.C.—Dr. J. M. Lloyd, 51, well-known physician who has practiced in this area for 25 years, died of a self-inflicted wound at his home here on Nov. 26. Funeral rites were held Nov. 28 at the AME Zion Church. *Sat. 12-7-46*

Coroner Bonner Paul ruled the shooting a clear case of suicide and deemed an inquest unnecessary. He said the body was found about 4 p.m. when his wife, a teacher, returned from school.

Dr Lloyd, who had been in failing health for two months, had been dead about two hours. He shot himself through the left side of the chest with a .45 calibre automatic pistol. He had taken off his coat and got in a bed before dying. *Baltimore, Md.*

Meharry Graduate

He attended Livingstone College at Salisbury (N.C.), and obtained his medical degree at Meharry Medical School in Nashville (Tenn.). *Sat. 12-7-46*

He was a trustee of the AME Zion Church, junior warden of the Masonic grand lodge, and held active membership in the Shriners, Elks, Odd Fellows, and civic groups. *The Afro-American*

The survivors include his wife, the former Miss Ethel Ward; an adopted daughter, Hilda Ward; and a sister, Mrs. Maggie Lloyd Cordon of Statesville (N.C.).

GEORGIANS END LONG ROMANCE IN PENNA.

The Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 12-28-46

CHESTER, Pa. — The turbulent romance of a well-known pharmacist and his Georgia-born sweetheart ended tragically last week when William Percival Harris, 46, murdered Ann Louise Brantley, 37, and ended his own life in the rear room of Miller's Pharmacy, Third and Edwards Streets.

The couple had resided in the apartment above the drug store for more than five years, and were generally thought to have been man and wife until last summer when Mrs. Odessa Hale Harris, a Wac dischargee, filed suit for divorce from Mr. Harris, charging desertion. Mrs. Harris resided in the next door apartment at 1703 West Third Street and the couple continued to occupy their original suite.

It was not known until after the tragedy that the comely blonde was a white woman.

TRAGEDY CLIMAXES QUARREL *The Courier*

The suicide-murder occurred Tuesday at 9:45 A. M., climaxing an all-night quarrel between the two. The woman's body was found by police, lying in a pool of blood, on the prescription room floor. She was clothed in a nightgown and bathrobe, with a bullet hole in her chest. The body of Harris was found several feet away, slouched in a corner, with a revolver clutched in his hand. Bullets had pierced his right temple and stomach. *Pittsburgh, Pa.*

CLERK CALLED POLICE

The only person who could furnish police details of the tragedy was Madeline Biddle, a clerk at the pharmacy, who roomed in the upstairs apartment with the couple.

Miss Biddle told police the two had been quarreling practically all Monday night, when Miss Brantley had returned to Chester after a month's absence. She reportedly had been in Hartford, Conn., with "another man." Miss Biddle said she was awakened by the arguing in the morning, and had tried vainly to persuade Miss Brantley from following Harris downstairs, where he had gone to open the drug store. *Sat. 12-28-46*

Five pistol shots startled Miss Biddle, who fearing for her own safety, tip-toed downstairs barefooted, fled to a nearby taproom, and notified the police.

Harris lived twenty-five minutes after being rushed to the Chester Hospital. The woman was dead on arrival.

Services for Mr. Harris were conducted Wednesday evening at Hunt's Funeral establishment, Third and Edwards Streets, with the Rev. J. P. Barbour, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, officiating. Mrs. Harris, her son, William, 23, an ex-GI; daughter, Mrs. Gloria Daniels, attended the services which had an overflow attendance. The body was shipped to Athens, Ga., his birthplace, for burial. A younger son, Robert, 20, was out-of-town. Mr. Harris, an Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity member, was a Howard U. graduate.

A brother of Miss Brantley, listed as "A. Saunders" of Atlanta, Ga., claimed her body, although it had been previously reported that he had refused to do so. Services were held for her Saturday afternoon. The brother was not present, and the body was interred at Haven Memorial Cemetery, near Chester. Rev. H. Barnes delivered the eulogy.

Curious Watch Tragic End of Marital Row

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-22-46

Curious spectators crowd around police as they prepare to lift the lifeless body of attractive Katherine Wynn, 26-year-old telephone company clerk into a patrol wagon for removal to morgue. Insert is her husband, Joseph Wynn, 34-year-old former marine, who used a trench knife to kill his estranged wife and then took his own life at their home, 916 Arlington Ave., in Baltimore, Wednesday morning.

Porter Using Ruse, Leaps to His Death

Tribune Washington, D.C.

Pullman Porter Samuel Hall, 36, estranged from his wife for three years, halted the cab in which he was riding with his "girl friend," Mrs. Isobel Pearson, separated from her husband, and unceremoniously leaped to his death from the railing of the Eleventh Street Bridge into the Anacostia River, Thursday night.

Hall, who lived at 1327 T St., N.W., told cab driver Purnell E. Curley, of 626 Harvard Street, as a ruse to leave the cab, that a letter he had been reading had blown from the window. He asked the driver to let him out.

This was about midway of the bridge. When Curley looked back, Hall was gone.

Suicide Certificate

The body was recovered by harbor police about two-and-one-half hours later. Mrs. Pearson, who had her 9-year-old son Chester Pearson, Jr., with her in the cab, lives at 2341 Hunter Place, S.E. She corroborated this version of the story. A certificate of suicide was issued by District Coroner A. Magruder MacDonald.

Tuesday 7-23-46

An investigation for the police homicide squad by Det. Sgt. Walter D. Perry disclosed that Hall and Mrs. Pearson had been keeping company for about a year. They met unexpectedly on the bus at 8th and K Sts., S.E., Thursday morning and Hall assisted Mrs. Pearson home with some bundles.

After that, Mrs. Pearson told Sergeant Perry, she intended to visit her brother, James Gross, 2148 L St., N.W., and believed that Hall was going to his home.

No Argumment, She Says

They hailed Curley's cab at Morris Rd. and Bangor St., S.E., and directed him to drive to the L Street address. The detective's report quotes Mrs. Pearson as saying there was no quarrel between them, and she could give no reason for the rash act. The report does not substantiate a belief that the two had a dispute earlier over visiting his family in Virginia.

Among members of Hall's family notified by police were: widow, Mrs. Carrie Hall, not found at an address they obtained, but who later appeared; mother, Mrs. Edith Hall, Marshall, Va., and niece, Mrs. Ella M. Stokes, 1452 Oak St., N.W.

Tribune

Other survivors include: brothers, Chester A. and William E. Hall; sisters, Misses Virginia E. and Pauline P. Hall.

Funeral and interment were held on Monday at Rectortown, Va.

Discrimination Causes Suicide

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

CAPETOWN, Union of South Africa—A 16-year-old school boy, Joseph William Rapnaar, was found hanging in the bath room of his home as the result of his worrying about the color bar. Although his parents passed as white, Joseph's skin was dark and he was regarded as colored. His brothers and sisters were referred to as Europeans. Joseph was sent to a colored school and his brothers and sisters went to a European school.

Joseph's mother testified to these facts at the inquest in Magistrate's Court last Saturday. According to her testimony Joseph had "musical genius;" he was sensitive about his dark skin, however. *Sat. 10-26-46*

Expect Fireworks NAACP Election

By WOODY L. TAYLOR

It is expected that there will be plenty of fireworks NAACP holds its regular membership meeting November announced this week by At AMEZ Church, 14th and C

It is anticipated that there will be much excitement when the question of the executive secretary job comes to the floor.

The Executive Committee of the District Branch recently abolished the job of Administrative assistant and in its place, created the position of executive secretary. Mrs. Beatrice M. Reed held the former job. At a recent meeting the executive committee, after considering several appli-

Rites Held for Teacher Who Took Her Own Life

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat.

BROOKLYN, N.Y. — (ANP) — Funeral services were held at St. Augustine's PE Church on Sept. 26 for Miss Mildred Cave, 35-year-old public school teacher and member of a prominent local family, who jumped to her death Sept. 23 from an office building.

Miss Cave is reported to have been "despondent, ill and in poor health" for some time. There was nothing "suspicious about the death," said Detective Friedner who handled the case. She was identified by her father. *10-12-46*

Packard Worker Jumps From Belle Isle Bridge

Chronicle

By LUTHER WEBB

Apparently depressed over the death of his mother who died two years ago, a middle-aged Detroiter, after jumping into the Detroit River adjoining Belle Isle last Thursday, refused to grasp a life preserver thrown to him.

Sat. 7-13-46

Bernard John McLaughlin, 46, of 434 E. Warren was last seen by his sister, Mrs. Desmodemonia Owens with whom he resided, when he departed for a nearby drug store to purchase a box of cough drops. Mrs. Owens said, "Bernard told me that he didn't feel well and was going to purchase cough drops. Also he had indicated before leaving that he would accompany me and his girl friend, Gretel Thompson of 329 Holbrook, to Belle Isle."

After he didn't return, Mrs. Owens said she decided that he didn't care to go and she and Miss Thompson left for Belle Isle.

Hosea Duncan, 27, of 1039 Watson, Briggs Manufacturing employee, told the Chronicle that he was standing on the bridge leading to Belle Isle about 11 o'clock when he noticed McLaughlin peering into the water from the Eastside of the bridge.

Detroit, Mich.

"McLaughlin," Duncan said, "stood motionless for a minute or two, then he placed one foot over the rail and stopped momentarily. Next, he climbed over the rail and stood for several minutes looking into the water before he jumped.

"By the time I returned from a nearby post with a life preserver, the current had carried McLaughlin to the opposite side of the water, just beyond the bridge. I threw the life preserver within one foot of him, but he refused to take hold of it. *Sat 7-13-46*

"McLaughlin remained afloat six or seven minutes," Duncan continued. "Apparently the current was so swift that he didn't go under immediately. After holding his hands above his head, he finally submerged."

Mrs. Owens said, "As we crossed the bridge we noticed people looking into the river below, about 11 o'clock. (According to harbormaster authorities, McLaughlin jumped over about 11 o'clock.) However, we did not know until we returned home in the afternoon that Bernard had drowned."

Mrs. Owens said that McLaughlin had been deeply depressed since the death of their mother, Mrs. Anna McLaughlin, two years ago. Often he brooded over her death. "Both of us loved mother dearly, but Bernard was most devoted to her," she said.

Detroit

Mrs. Owens said that Bernard had been under a physician's care for the past several months. "Although I knew of his condition, it was most difficult for me to believe that Bernard lost control of himself and jumped."

Mich

Miss Thompson, who also talked with McLaughlin before he left for the drug store, said, "He complained more than once of having head pains. Too, I knew that he grieved constantly over the death of Mrs. McLaughlin."

Last Memorial Day, Mrs. Owens said, "Bernard had visited our mother's grave and was terribly brokenup immediately after leaving the cemetery. The Sunday following his visit to the cemetery he joined the Alpha Omega Church, 446 Holbrook where he served as an usher." *Sat. 7-13-46*

McLaughlin was employed by the Packard Motor Car Company where he has worked for the past four years. He is also survived by another sister, Othello Townsend, of 291 E. Canfield.

Plaindealer

SUICIDE A DIFFICULT JOB

Negro Bleeds to Death From Razor and Gun Wound

Arkansas City, Kans., July 29.—Rutherford H. Work, 69, Negro, of rural Ashton, Kans., cut his throat with a razor but merely damaged his windpipe. Then he leaned over a shotgun and pulled the trigger, but missed his heart. However, he bled to death before relatives found him Sunday morning. *8-2-46 Kansas City*

Vet Kills Self In Mother's Home

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-31-46

PHILADELPHIA—(ANP)—Nora Bryce, World War II veteran, killed himself with a .22 caliber rifle in his mother's home last Thursday night.

Rushed to Pennsylvania hospital, the 27-year-old veteran was pronounced dead upon arrival. Found by his mother, Mrs. Frankie Drayton, Bryce still clutched the death weapon. She told investigating authorities that he had been suffering from a nervous condition ever since his return from overseas with the army.

Murder-Suicide Victims Buried

The Tribune Washington, D.C.
Sat. 9-28-46

Separate funeral services were held last week for Fenton Lee Ash, 36, and his wife, Mrs. Margaret Ash, 30, of 646 Callan St., N.E., who died in a murder-suicide slaying by the husband.

Both died from bullets of a .45 caliber pistol which Det. Sgts. George W. Cook and John O. Curtis of the police homicide squad, and Dr. A. M. Mac Donald, coroner, believe were fired by Mr. Ash.

Mass for Mrs. Ash was offered in the Holy Name Catholic Church, 11th and K Sts., N.E., on Thursday. Funeral rites for Mr. Ash were held on Thursday at the home of his brother at 1331 Montello Ave., N.E., with interment at Newport News, Va.

Mrs. Ash was the daughter of Mrs. Mabel Smith and sister of Mrs. Ruth Harris, Mrs. Catherine Diggs, and Mrs. Mary Gorham. She also left two uncles and three aunts. She was a member of Columbia Elks' Temple and burial was in Mount Olivet cemetery.

Mr. Ash was son of Charles and Mrs. Cornelia Ash. He also leaves: brother, Charles Ash, Jr; seven sisters, Mrs. Luberta Harrison, Mrs. Almeda Holland, Mrs. Melvina Edwards, Mrs. Christine Baylor, Mrs. Lila Messinger, and Miss Louise Ash; also three nephews.

The double tragedy was discovered by Mrs. Gorham, who lives across the street. She said that her son ran in and said he had heard two shots. She went across the street, forced the door open, and found the couple on the bed, in dying condition.

Mr. and Mrs. Ash, married in 1941, had been separated for three years, but recently perfected a reconciliation.

Man Kills Wife, Takes Own Life

The Tribune
Los Angeles, Calif.

A certificate of murder and suicide were issued by Coroner A. Magruder MacDonald, Saturday, in the deaths of Mrs. Margaret Ash, 34, and her husband, Fenton Ash, 36, both of 646 Callan Street, N.E.

Police said Ash shot his wife and then turned the pistol on himself. *Sat. 9-21-46*

The tragedy was discovered by Mrs. Mary Graham, 35, of 643 Callan Street, N.E., who was attracted by two shots and ran across the street to find her sister and brother-in-law dying of head wounds.

N.J. Matron Leaps to Death in N.Y.

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Tragedy shared the Independence Day spotlight in Harlem when Mrs. Winifred Simmons, 46, of 59½ Forrest Ave., Montclair, N.J., leaped to her death from a fifth-floor room at 117th St. and St. Nicholas Ave., which she rented at 9:40 p.m. on July 3. *Sat. 7-13-46*

Her body fell 50 feet into an alley and was removed to Sydenham Hospital when police arrived. Mrs. Simmons, it was learned, was being treated by a White Plains (N.Y.) physician for internal complications which set in prior to an operation for a nervous disease at Englewood (N.J.) Hospital.

Husband Talks

Her husband, James Simmons, who had been employed at the hospital over 20 years, admitted that his wife complained of her condition, and that she was nervous and acted peculiarly at times. The AFRO learned that the couple had been married 22 years.

Several occupants in the building were questioned by investigating officers to determine if foul play was involved in the tragedy. They allegedly found a "tell-tale" note, contents of which were not disclosed. Two sisters, Emilia Trott, Scarsdale, N.Y., and Ethel Trott, Columbia University, survive besides her husband.

Whites Kill Selves Four Times Faster Than Other Groups

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 10-12-46

NEW YORK — The suicide rate among white people is more than four times greater than among non-whites, the 1946 Book of the Year, issued by the Encyclopedia Britannica, discloses.

The book gives figures showing that among white males, the rate is 16.4 per 100,000; whereas among non-whites of that sex it is 4.8 per 100,000. Among females, the rate for whites is 5.9; while non-whites' rate is 1.3 for the same per 100,000 population.

Mother's Death Blamed For Suicide of Girl 19

The Tribune Washington, D.C. Tues. 7-23-46

Through a combination of circumstances, publication of her picture in The Tribune and substantiation by fingerprints from the FBI, the body of the young woman who jumped to her death into the Tidal Basin on July 8, has been identified as that of Miss Betty Marie Queen, 19, who lived with a sister, Mrs. Lilian Davis, at 6414 H St., N.E., Cedar Heights, Md.

Investigation by Det. Sgt. Samuel M. Scott of the police homicide squad revealed that Miss Queen had been sffering with a nervous ailment for one or two years. For this, she had received treatment at Gallinger Hospital ond the Crownsville (Md.) State Hospital.

She reportedly told her sister about 6 a.m., on the day of the tragedy, that she was going to 3rd and C Sts., S.W., to seek employment as a waitress. About two hours later, the then unidentified girl was seen to jump into the basin by Lt. Com. J. N. Thornton and G. E. Todd.

The sister is said to have told Sergeant Scott that Miss Queen had left home on numerous occasions, and had several times been picked up by police who notified relatives and returned her safely home. Mrs. Davis was under the impression that the young woman was on another roving spell, until the turn of events. *Tues. 7-23-46*

Mrs. Davis also told police that her sister had seemed intensely despondent since the death of their mother about a month ago. There are also two other sisters, and the report that one is a WAVE is being checked.

The parens of the family are native Marylanders and the children were all born and reared in Cedar Heights.

The fingerprint which led to the positive identification of the girl by the FBI was made in March, 1945, when she made application for a Government job. A friend of the family notified the sister of The Tribune photo, but at the time was not certain that it was Miss Queen.

N.Y. Army Vet Murders Grandparents, Kills Self

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK — The murder of an aged couple and the suicide of their grandson, an Army veteran, was discovered last week after an overflowing refrigerator pan began dipping into the apartment below. *Sat. 11-23-46*

The dead, all of 133-22 Roosevelt Ave., Flushing, Queens, are:

Mrs. Isabel Russell, 73, whose body was found sprawled across that of her husband, Thomas Russell, 72, and George Mapp Jr., 24, their grandson, who was discovered in the living room with a bullet hole through his right temple and a 22-caliber rifle at his feet.

Both of the Russells had been shot through the head.

Motive a Mystery

Motive for the murder-suicide remains a mystery since police say that all they can unearth is that Mapp has acted strangely ever since his discharge last December. The coroner estimated that the shootings occurred late last Monday or early Tuesday.

Although the Russells and the former soldier lived on the second floor of a two-story house, nearby neighbors said they had not heard any outcries or shots during the period established by the coroner for the shootings.

Neighbor Investigates

Mrs. Elizabeth Brewster, who lives on the floor below, told police, that the Russell icebox started to drip into her kitchen and she went upstairs, found their door locked and a bottle of milk and Tuesday's newspaper at the door.

She then sent a neighbor to get the Russell's son, Victor Russell of 132-50 41st Ave., Flushing, who used a ladder to enter the kitchen from the rear. He discovered gas pouring from two jets on the stove and turned them off.

Vet Reported as Moody

Mapp's father, George Mapp, a trucker, of 114-43 140th St., South Ozone Park, Queens, told police that his son had not been well since his return to civilian life, and that he had a habit of sitting for long periods staring into space.

He also had reportedly drifted from job to job. Mapp was one of a large family and had elected to live with his grandparents. He joined the Army a month before Pearl Harbor and served with a truck battalion in Europe.

Mapp's relatives said he held six battle stars and the Purple Heart.

Police Blame Suicide For Woman's Death

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Tues. 9-24-46

Mrs. Mary Helen Dunson, 32, of 523 Collier St., S W, was pronounced "dead on arrival" Sunday night, at Grady Hospital and after their investigation Officers Lloyd Rowell and B W. Reavis listed this death as a suicide.

Officers Rowell and Reavis quoted the victim's husband as saying that he had been talking with her, and that she asked him not to go off. Later, he walked out of the house and closed the door, but suddenly heard a shot.

Returning to the house, he found his wife lying on the bed and a 12-guage shotgun was leaning on the chest of drawers. Since she was still breathing, he rushed out and called the ambulance.

Murder Suspect Dies in Jail in Atlanta

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

ATLANTA (ANP) — Police here report that Frank Lowe, 38, accused of killing a woman with a shotgun, killed himself by butting his head against the walls in his cell at the police station, last week. *Sat. 11-23-46*

According to the report, an inmate told officers he heard the victim butting his head against the wall, and exclaiming that Miss Margaret Barnes, the girl he killed last month, was in the cell with him.

"Who's Sorry Now," He Asks In The Suicide Note

The Nigerian Spokesman
Nigeria, British West Africa
Thurs. 8-22-46

COLCHESTER, Essex. — The bulldog spirit was exercised in a suicide of love again when an 18-year-old driver shot himself because Marie Johnson had refused to marry him. The driver, Donald Fleming left a note saying: "Who's sorry now?" The verdict was suicide while of unsound mind.

Newark Teen-Ager "Lived Too Long," Takes Her Own Life

The Afro-American Baltimore MD.

JERSEY CITY — What type of haunting fear drove pretty Harriet Smith to commit suicide with poison at her home at 26 Virginia Ave. last week? *1-19-46*

Harriet's body was lowered into a grave in Jersey City Cemetery on Monday, one day before her 18th birthday.

Behind she left a puzzle in a last note to her mother, Mrs. Ella Hall, who found her dead in bed at 1 a.m., Thursday, when she went to tuck the girl in against any winter chill.

The hint to her suicide was in these words:

"This way I won't disgrace my family."

Dr. Arthur P. Haskins, county physician, reported that Miss Smith, a nurse's aide, was a victim of some undetermined poison.

"Easiest Way Out"

Detective James Gillen, who was assigned to the case, said there were few clues save for the note which read:

"Dear Mother: Can't find any other way out. This is the easiest way out. I know I should have done it long ago.

"This way I won't disgrace the family. My only hope now is that God thinks it best, because He is the only one who knows the truth."

Miss Smith was a former Snyder High School pupil, having completed the junior year last June and registered as nurse's aide in Sanger's Home for Chronic People in New York City in the same month.

Forced to Take Rest

Ambitious to become a nurse, she remained at the hospital instead of returning to Snyder High until she was compelled to take a rest two months ago. *1-19-46*

On the night of her death, Miss Smith was reported to have complained to her mother that she was not feeling well and retired.

Although she was popular in Jersey City's younger set, her work in New York City prevented her from participating in many social activities and organizations.

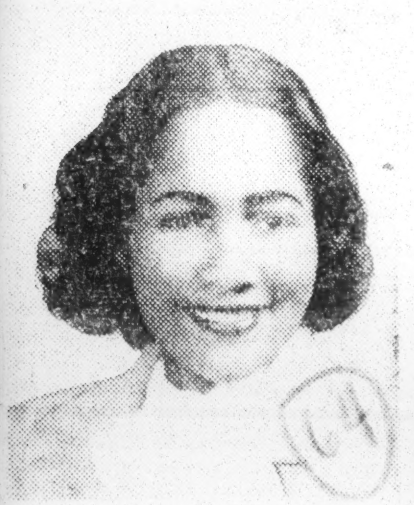
Metropolitan Member

She was a member of Metropolitan AMEZ Church, but often attended Catholic services.

Funeral services were held on Monday at her home, with the Rev. Elias S. Hardge, pastor of Metropolitan, officiating.

She leaves besides her mother, a stepfather, Albert Hall, and four brothers, Lawrence and Ralph Smith, both military dischargees, Ellsworth and Harry Smith, all of the Virginia Ave. address.

Interment was under the supervision of John E. White, undertaker.



MISS HARRIET SMITH, pretty Jersey City nurse's aide, who killed herself at her home, 26 Virginia Ave., by taking poison. She was buried on Monday. Note said she acted to save her family from disgrace.

Leaves Note Saying Mate "Failed" Her

Louisiana Weekly New Orleans, La.

Sat 2-16-46

Unable to face life without the companionship of her erstwhile common-law spouse, Miss Author Lee Stewart, 31 yrs, 3238 Piety street, ended her life with a bullet fired from a .32 calibre revolver, sometime last Wednesday morning, February 6.

According to information learned through investigating police officers of the Fifth Precinct Police Station, the body of Miss Stewart was discovered at about 2:00 o'clock last Wednesday afternoon when her mother, Mrs. Georgiana Steward, 49 yrs., Baton Rouge, La., gained entrance to the Piety street home by having the door forced. Mrs. Stewart told police that she had come to New Orleans in answer to a telegram which she had received that same morning. The sender of the telegram and the contents of the message could not be learned.

The deceased woman was found lying on her back upon a sofa in the front room of the Piety street address. She was bleeding from a gun shot wound of the right side of the head, and a .32 calibre revolver, containing one discharged cartridge, was found lying nearby; there were powder burns on Miss Stewart's left hand. A Charity Hospital ambulance was summoned; however the interne pronounced her dead. *S. 2-16-46*

A note allegedly written by Miss Stewart expressed "regret over her common-law husband (Tom Gray) who is absent from the city and who resided with her." She claimed that he "failed" her.

VERDICT IS SUICIDE

A finding of suicide was returned yesterday by Coroner Joe L. Hilderbrand in the death of Squire Allen, 71, whose body was found about 5 a.m. at his home, 744 North 46th Street. Mr. Hilderbrand, who said he had been informed that the Negro had been despondent, said the man shot himself in the chest with a shotgun. *2-14-46*

Homicide-Suicide Verdict Of Jury

Atlanta Ga. Daily World

In order to clear up what at first appeared to have been a double homicide, Mrs. Paul Donehoo, coroner, conducted two inquests simultaneously, Friday afternoon, at Hanley's Funeral Home.

The verdict of the jury indicated that Annette Wise died of bullet wounds inflicted by her husband Charles Wise, who later took his own life.

As the inquest got underway, the examing physician described the location and nature of the wounds. Mrs Wise had two wounds one near the right ear and the other penetrating the chest and going out of her back. The only wound on Mr. Wise entered behind his left ear passed through his skull. *Sat 3-9-46*

FOUR SHOTS

Mrs. Katie Smith, a neighbor, testified that when she heard the first shot, she went around the house and inquired from Mrs. Edna Stokes if she heard it. While they were talking, Mr. Wise came out of the house requested that Mrs. Stokes tell her brother to come there quick.

When Mr. Wise went back into the house, Mrs.Smith said she heard three more shots.

Detective C. L. Taylor stated that while he and his partner, Detective W. F. White found pistols on the floor, only one had been used in the homicide-suicide. He also explained that one of the bullets hit the wall.

Husband Is Suicide Victim; Wife Had Filed Petition For Divorce

The Informer Houston Texas

Sat. 1-5-46

HOUSTON.—Alton Joseph Stewart, 22, 2501 Nettleton street, was found shot to death in his bed, Saturday December 22. Officers believe the man committed suicide by shooting himself once in the left chest with a 38 caliber pistol. A divorce petition filed Dec. 20 by the dead man's wife, Mrs. Theresa Stewart, was found nearby, officers reported.

Stewart's body was found in bed by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Herbert with whom he roomed, and two powder burned holes in the walls of the room are believed by officers to have been caused when Stewart apparently practiced before shooting himself. *1-5-46*

Marvin McCoy, Mrs. Stewart's attorney, said he had filed an injunction against Stewart in an effort to keep Stewart from killing his wife whose life he had threatened several times. The attorney stated that Stewart had also threatened the life of his wife's mother.

Takes Life After Battling 50 Cops

Afro-American Baltimore Md. Sat 4-6-46

LOS ANGELES—(ANP)—Refusing to face justice after putting a bullet through the throat of a woman friend, Bennie Harris, 42, last week fought off more than 50 policemen for an hour before he was routed by tear gas. He then turned his gun upon himself inflicting a fatal wound.

The battle, which took place on two sides of a hotel room door on Pedro Ave., here, halted traffic and terrorized persons walking in the vicinity. Harris barricaded himself in the room after shooting Bessie Mae Davis, 27, a hotel resident.

Miss Davis, severely wounded, crawled to the hall and other residents summoned the police. Harris fired upon the officers until weakened by wounds.

Old La. Case Cited

Old former residents of New Orleans, compared the tragedy to that of the almost legendary incident of Robert Charles back in the 90's, who, after killing his sweetheart, barricaded himself in his home. *Sat. 4-13-46*

According to reports, he killed some 20 policemen with his Winchester rifle before he perished in flames set off by the gun fire.

Love-mad Man Kills Self

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

By LAWRENCE F. LaMAR

LOS ANGELES, (NPB) — Residents in the vicinity of First and San Pedro Streets during the early dawn Monday, especially those who had experienced gunfire in either World War 1, or 2, were treated to something highly reminiscent of what it is like for an advancing force to take a sector of enemy position. *Sat 4-13-46*

"Pitch-Gun-Battle"

The roar of a high powered elephant rifle in the hands of a man barricaded in a third floor room of a downtown rooming house and the measured pistol and tear gas gun reply of several car loads of police officers for fully one hour highlighted the news of the day. Scores of persons attracted to the scene endangered themselves to get a closeup view of what was going on.

Happenings leading up to the lone rifleman-police gun duel revealed that the barricaded man identified later as Benny Harris 42-year-old garage worker, during a fit of jealous rage went to the rooming house at First and San Pedro and after breaking in a room occupied by Joshua Gable, opened fire on 27-year-old Bessie Mae Davis, his erstwhile love, critically wounding her in the neck.

Takes His Own Life

Gable is said to have locked the man in the room and summoned help. Police arriving on the scene were warned of the man being heavilly armed and with plenty of ammunition. Reinforcements were sent for and scores of police surrounded the building ordering everyone to vacate the place while keeping an eye on the room where Harris was known to be barricaded.

They began the gun battle with a number of rounds of tear gas bombs tossed in. for sixty minutes. At the end of an hour a loud report was heard from the room and the firing ceased. Police stormed the room only to find that their quarry had taken his own life. Police bullets had the mark two times. The wounded Miss Davis is reported "sinking".

Believe Soldier Commited Suicide

Washington Tribune D.C.

Sgt. Willie E. Lewis of Washington, D.C., died recently at Tuskegee Army Air Field as a result of a gunshot wound, believed to be self inflicted.

A member of the Military Police Squadron at TAAF, Sgt. Lewis was inducted into the Army in August 1942. He re-enlisted in the Regular Army in August 1945. He is survived by his wife, Theresa E. Lewis, and daughter, Bessee, both residing in Greenville, Miss. *5-11-46 Tues.*

Probe Fails To Connect Slaying Of White Woman And Negro Suicide

Norfolk Va.

(Reprinted From Last Week's Late Edition)

CANDOR, N. C.—Up until the latter part of last week, nothing had been developed by police to connect the discovry of the body of a white farm woman, dead from two bullet wounds, in her own car a few feet from her home, and the suicide a day later with a .22 calibre rifle by a colored man who worked on her farm.

Sat. 4-20-46

The dead woman, Mrs. Lena Kellis, was found Tuesday morning, April 2, by a neighbor. The suicide, Ernie Morrison, took his own life at the home of his mother-in-law in the Brutonville section on Wednesday.

Monday evening, April 1, Sheriff Earl Bruton received reports of a fight at Mrs. Kellis' home between Morrison and Paul Parons, also Negro, both of whom worked on the farm. Parsons claimed Morrison owed him some money.

Next morning Sheriff Bruton, accompanied by another Negro, Jim Armstrong, stopped at the Kellis' home to question her about the fight. Receiving no response to his several calls, he drove on to Troy, little suspecting that the woman he sought lay dead in her car not far away.

Mrs. Kellis saw nothing of the fight, the Sheriff is convinced, for subsequent investigation established that she had gone to Rockingham on business during the afternoon. *Sat. 4-20-46*

Following the slaying, however, a search was begun for Morrison. He evaded deputies until Wednesday morning, when he went to the home of his mother-in-law where he committed suicide. She reported to Sheriff Bruton that she had chided Morrison for not surrendering; whereupon he went to another room and shot himself with his rifle. Being quite deaf, the woman did not hear the shot, and it was some time before she discovered the suicide. Morrison left no confession nor made any statement about his part, if any, in the Lena Kellis slaying.

daughter of the slain woman, was the only person in the house at the time of the murder. She was asked by Jones to leave the house if she didn't want to get shot.

Slays Wife And Commits Suicide

Atlanta Daily World *Atlanta Ga*

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—(SNS)—Bishop Jones, aged 50, shot his wife, Vera, aged 32, at their home 118 Alder Street, Hot Springs, the morning of May 17, killing her instantly. He then slashed his throat with a razor and died within a few minutes. Pansy Mae Scott,

Woman Kills Self by Drinking Lysol

Afro-American *Baltimore, Md.*

WASHINGTON

Admitted to Gallinger Hospital last Wednesday, Mrs. Winnie Cannady, 33, of 1841 Seventh St., N.W., was pronounced dead three hours later, from drinking lysol. A certificate of suicidal death was issued by the coroner. *6-12-46*

Miss Muriel Barbour of the same address told police that she came home at two p.m., and found the victim lying on a couch in the front room of the second floor of the house. *Sat.*

She said that the victim was apparently in an intoxicated condition. Later, she reported, she smelled a strong odor of lysol. She then summoned the health department. *Sat.*

Later investigation disclosed that Mrs. Cannady poured the contents of lysol from a 2½ ounce bottle into a glass, which was found on a table near where she was lying. *6-11-46*

Ex-Serviceman Hangs Himself In The House Of His Host

BNUGU, May 1—An incident of unusual nature occurred at the Ogui quarter on Friday, April 26, when one ex-serviceman Anyiam Uzoigwe was alleged to have committed suicide by hanging in the house of his host Michael Nwogu. *June 5-2-46*

Nwogu returned from work to behold the ghastly spectacle

The alleged suicide was said to have been committed in a room with doors and windows securely fastened

On examining the pockets of Uzoigwe who was said to have been found hanging on a piece of white cloth tied around his neck the police according to reports discovered the ex-soldier's discharge card h s post office accounts book an! documents he had had from the Labour Department

The doctor's report showed that death was due to suicide by hanging

In the mo nt me the police are alle to be still investigating into the matter.

Bronx Housewife Dies After Fall

Amsterdam News

Bronx housewife realized her threat to commit suicide Saturday afternoon in a leap or fall from her third floor apartment. Katherine Wright, 33-year-old matron at 3:45 plummetted from the window of her apartment at 1407 Brooks Avenue. She died enroute to the Morrisania Hospital. *Sat. 6-15-46*

Her sister, Mrs. Emma Glass, said Mrs. Wright had been despondent over love troubles involving her estranged husband and another man, who was unidentified. She had, said Mrs. Glass, threatened to take her own life several times before.

Police from the 48th Precinct, investigating the case, reported that no letters or notes had been found.

Although they expressed no doubt about the reason for her death, there was, they stated, no suspicion involved and no one would be held.

In spite of previous threats by Mrs. Wright, no attempts had been made by her of a suicidal nature. She was said to be highly emotional and very disturbed over her marital complications. *Sat. 6-15-46*

Mrs. Wright's maiden name was reported to be Waller. She was pronounced dead on arrival by Dr. Alsen of Morrisania Hospital.

Ship Bodies Of First Family Fights Deaths

Amsterdam News *N.Y. N.Y.*

The bodies of Arthur Griffen and his wife, Mabel, were shipped to their respective native homes last week following services at the Lafayette Rogers Home.

Griffen, a Newark post office clerk, beat Mrs. Griffen to death during the couple's first argument of their 11-year-old marriage. Then, he made himself a sandwich of ham and rat poison, ate it and boarded a subway train for Brooklyn where he later died in Kings County Hospital. *Sat.*

Mrs. Griffen's body was sent to Tasley, Va., that of her husband's to Wilmington, Del. *N.Y. N.Y.*

There were no children and the couple lived at 110 Edgecomb Ave. Police investgating the tragedy listed it as murder and suicide.

Man slashes girl, commits suicide

Tribune

SAN ANTONIO—Lester Conner, 30, of San Antonio, killed himself last week by slashing his throat after a frenzied knife attack on his attractive former sweetheart, Mrs. Irene Harris, 25, who refused to make up with him.

Conner reportedly straddled the young woman and stabbed and slashed her repeatedly, attempting to tear her wounds open further with his hands by gouging his fingers into the cuts. Mrs. Harris' screams attracted a neighbor, Hugh Jackson, 60, who got a pistol and fired one shot to make Conner stop. Conner then cut his own throat. *Los Angeles, Calif.*

Mrs. Harris is expected to recover but will be scarred for the rest of her life on her throat, face, arms, chest, and back.

Mrs. Lucille A. Smith, Despondent, Ends Life

Northwest Enterprise *Seattle, Washington*

Mrs. Lucille A. Smith, aged 45, 503 23rd Ave. So., was rushed to the hospital early Thursday morning, suffering from a dose of poison self-administered during a period of despondency. All efforts to save her failed and she died a few hours after entering the hospital. *Wed. 5-22-46*

Born in Leadville, Colo., the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Allen, with the family came to Seattle the same year.

She was a graduate of Green Lake grade school, class of 1915, entering Lincoln High the same year, graduating in 1919. She completed a two-year courrse in medicine at the University of Washington. In 1924 she was married to Charles B. Smith and they became the parents of three children.

She was a member of Mt. Zion Baptist church and served as superintendent of the primary department of the Sunday school for two years; a member of the Parent-Teachers group at Coleman school, and recently elected chairman of the Parent group of Boy Scouts Troop No. 14.

Active in civic affairs, she always displayed a willingness to serve in any capacity for her community, her family and her friends. She was never known to refuse for any civic duty requested of her. She was a devoted wife and mother. *5-22-46*

She leaves to mourn her loss a father, James H. Allen; her husband, Charles B. Smith; a daughter, Mrs. Hazel Stroy; two sons, James Gerald and Stephen Bert; a sister, Mrs. Minnie Cook; three brothers, Bert, Mack, and Walter Allen; three sisters-in-law, nine nephews, five nieces, one cousin, a grandchild, a mother-in-law and many friends.

Funeral rites were directed by the Angelus Mortuary at Mt. Zion Baptist church. Interment was at Mt. Pleasant, the Rev. F. Benjamin Davis officiating.

Beaumont Woman Kills Business Partner And Self

Informer

BEAUMONT.—Justice of the Peace Horace Blade returned a verdict of murder and suicide Saturday, June 8, but later reversed the attempted murder verdict following the death of Emile Balque, who was shot four times by his business partner, Miss Cora Marks. There were witnesses to the shooting, but prior to his death Sunday, June 9, officers stated, Balque told them that following an argument Miss Marks shot him and then killed herself.

According to her sister, Mrs. Corine Batiste, Miss Marks came to her home Saturday morning and said she was "going to kill herself." She pulled off her rings and left them, the sister stated and asked her to give them to her daughter and further to "look after" her daughter and son.

Miss Marks is survived by her son, John Chester Harmon, 13; daughter, Mary Louise Harmon, 11; father, Joe Marks, and sister, Mrs. Corine Batiste. *Houston, Tex.*

R.C.M. Teacher Commits Suicide By Taking Poison

KUMASI.—What appeared to be the most sensational news recently was the death of Mr John Taylor, teacher of the Danyinah Roman Catholic School, who committed suicide by taking poison.

It was reported that Mr Taylor on the afternoon of the fateful day, dressed up nicely, went to have a short nap with instruction to his two boys that they should wake him up after a while.

If, however, he failed to get up they should tell his fellow teachers, and if they also failed to rouse him from sleep, the Odikro should be informed.

Carrying out their master's instructions the two boys came to wake Mr Taylor up when "chop" was ready, but he was in deep coma.

The teachers were informed, but Taylor would not respond to their call, for his eyes were closed in death.

The Odikro was informed, but poor soul it was too late to have him back to life, for by him in the room was half-emptied bottle of lysol.

THEATRICAL, INDIVIDUALS, TROUPES

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 98

COCK AND BULL FANTASIES:

The Afro-American

No Cinderella Artists

Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-23-46

PUB HOUNDS OVERWORK VOCABULARY—CAMPBELL

BALTIMORE

Dick Campbell, concert manager and former coordinator of talent for USO-Camp Shows, was in Baltimore and Washington last week to negotiate contracts for concert appearances of Muriel Rahn, who is now in Texas on a concert tour and will return to New York shortly before Christmas.

Mr. Campbell was asked what he thought about the up and coming young concert artists today. "I think most of them are great," he said, "but I think also their press agents should be restrained before the public gets bored.

Race Between Publicists

"Today there seems to be a 'race' between the press agents of the up and coming young artists. They vie for fame and fortune for their clients through the short cut road to success. Overnight 'sensations' are acclaimed in such grandiose terms that the world wonders how it ever got along, musically speaking, before the horde of 'Cinderella' stars appeared.

"A word of praise or encouragement from a sympathetic symphony conductor, or high-powered concert manager, or even Mrs. Roosevelt, is pounced upon by the energetic 'p.a.' of the artist and magnified to such proportion that all the singers who ever sang in concert or opera before, white or colored, are dwarfed by comparison.

Many Phrases Hashed

"All the old phrases and cliches coined years ago are dragged out and polished up. 'A new star is born,' "a voice like a fiddle,' 'a Cinderella girl,' and some new ones too, like 'the atomic voice.' Look out next for 'the voice of the United Nations.'

"So what happens to you, the public after reading of all the virtues of the new young star, according to her 'praise agent'? You begin to feel sorry for Marian Anderson . . . until, you hear the 'United Nations' voice.' Then you suddenly realize that Marian has nothing to worry about. Yes, there is a crying need for intelligent press agentry today! The bounds of good taste have been stretched to the breaking point.

A Comforting Thought

"A comforting thought about all this, however, is that practically none of the young stars of today are silly enough to believe they are as great as their 'p.a.'s' claim they are. Most of them never see the stuff that's written about them until they read it in the papers and magazines.

"My impression of most of the young stars of today leaves me with the feeling they are hard-working, humble, intelligent and appreciative of public support."

A Significant Dent In Jimcrow Theatre Tradition

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

Fri. 9-20-46

By Samuel Sillen

I have just received the following press release: "General Artists Corporation has announced that Mr. Canada Lee will play the role of a white man in the forthcoming revival of **The Duchess of Malfi.** He will be co-starred with Elizabeth Bergner.

"The deal was consummated through Jules Ziegler, newly appointed head of GAC's equity department. Mr. Ziegler expects to release further details of the play in the next few days."

This is one of the most important announcements in the history of the American Theater.

It recognizes a principle which this column advanced on Feb. 25, 1945. The column, headlined "Should the Negro Actor Be Limited to Negro Roles?" said:

"The position of the Negro artist in the theater has improved more significantly than is generally realized, even though the victory over Jimcrow on the stage is far from complete. The past two or three seasons have witnessed several important departures from a prejudice encrusted tradition.

"The outstanding examples include:

"Robeson's **Othello**, a commercial as well as artistic success, smashing all records for consecutive performances of a Shakespearean play.

"The clause in Paul Robeson's contract with the Theatre Guild which bars appearances of **Othello** before audiences from which Negroes have been excluded or in which they are segregated.

"The extraordinary hit registered by two all-Negro casts in **Carmen Jones** and **Anna Lucasta.**

"The integrated treatment of Negro performers in musical comedies."

(The 1945-1946 season witnessed further advances in plays like **Deep Are the Roots, Jeb,** and **On Whitman Avenue,** as well as musicals like **Call Me Mister.**)

"But one basic challenge remains to be met, and that is the right of the Negro actor to perform in **any** part, Negro or white.

"There is no **artistic** reason why a Negro artist should not perform **Lear as well** as Othello. To the extent that the Negro actor continues to be barred from a role merely on the basis of color, he is the victim of prejudice. . . .

"The idea that a Negro actor may perform effectively as a white character will no doubt startle many theatergoers. As a matter of fact, the last century was ahead of us in this respect.

"The American - born Negro tragedian Ira Alridge played **Othello** without makeup; and he also performed Lear made up as a white. And some observers (like the French novelist Gautier) felt that, magnificent as he was in the first role, he was even better in the second. . . .

"The great success of Aldridge in **Othello** has been duplicated in our own day by Paul Robeson. It remains for a contemporary Aldridge to be anabled to duplicate his success in **Lear** and in other 'white roles.'

"It may be argued that the casting of Canada Lee as Caliban is a noteworthy step in this direction. I am inclined to doubt it. For Caliban, whatever else may be said for or against him, is a hag-born monster that does not represent man, either white or black.

"I am not suggesting that the casting of Negro players in 'white' roles is the primary need of the anti-Jimcrow theater today. But I do feel that the American theater must undertake at once to reexamine its prejudiced assumption that such casting is impossible in principle. For until this assumption is shattered, the Negro will not be treated fully as an artist whose roles are determined by his own scope and versatility rather than by the color of his skin." Fri. 9-20-46

* * *

And now, a year and a half later, it is gratifying to report the announcement that Canada Lee has been cast without reference to color in the revival of John Webster's famous 17th century play **The Duchess of Malfi.**

This is a significant dent in a theater that has developed along "white supremacy" lines. This is the time to raise in a far sharper form than ever before the demand for unconditional artistic equality for the Negro actor. Canada Lee is making theater history. Progressives in the theater world and in the audience must see to it that this important start is continued.

New Book Charges Radio and Movies Brush Off Talents of Sepians

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 11-23-46

NEW YORK CITY—Charges that the radio and motion picture industries are guilty of "brushing off" the creative talents of Ngro performers highlight a healthy portion of the text of Dave Dexter's new book, "Jazz Cavalcade," recently published by Criterion Books of New York City. Slashing at radio and film factory executives with logic and documentary evidence, Dexter de-votes separate chapters of the book to an articulate plea for wider opportunities.

He points out that the King Cole Trio is the only colored attraction to be featured on a sponsored network stanza regularly, and that for more than a decade (until the new Cole program for Wildroot was launched in October) the doors were closed to Negro performers.

As for the film industry, its refusal to portray the modern American Negro in his true light—its repeated casting of him in menial, exaggerated "Uncle Tom" roles—takes a lambasting rarely offered by white writers. Suggestions as to how this situation can be remedied, and how true democracy can succeed despite the pressure of the South and its citizenry, are humbly but forcefully offered by Dexter in Jazz Cavalcade text.

WELLES WRITES

The foreword to the tome has been written by Orson Welles, famous actor and liberal. The book comprising some 300 pages, traces the wondrous story of American hot music from its birth to its present position of eminence in the culture of the world. Every jazz musician who has ever made a recording is mentioned in the sixteen chapters. One chapter is devoted to a full history of jazz on 60 available record sides, covering the field from the Original Dixieland Jazz Band to the Errol Garners, Dizzy Gillespies and Stan Kentons of 1946.

Among the orchestra leaders who have made comments on Jazz Cavalcade, Lionel Hampton rates the book as "the best reading on the subject ever printed." Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Earl Hines and Louis Armstrong are reported similarly enthused. The book, first time to be authored by Dexter in his fifteen years as a writer-editor, has just been placed in America's book, record and music stores all

over the Nation—including the deep South. 11-29-46

Campbell Deep in Heart of Texas

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Dick Campbell, former coordinator of talent for USO-Camp Shows and now the only colored promoter devoting full time to concert management, returned to his native Texas during the holidays for a brief vacation, stopping in Columbus, Ohio, en route for his fraternity convention, Alpha Phi Alpha, and will proceed from there to Fort Worth for the Cattle Bowl Classic on New Year's Day.

Former classmates of Campbell's at Charlton Pollard High School in Beaumont and Paul Quinn College at Waco, will hold class reunions in Fort Worth on New Year's Day in his honor.

During the war, Campbell produced hundreds of variety shows, musicals, and concerts for USO which played all over the world for men and women of the armed forces. Prior to that he was a producer, playwright, director and actor, and was also founder and director for the famous Rose McClendon Players of Harlem.

He produced scores of plays and pageants in New York City, some of which were presented at Madison Square Garden before audiences of 25,000 and featuring such stars as Paul Robeson, Canada Lee, Dooley Wilson and Hilda Simms. Sat. 12-28-46

While in Texas and other States of the Southwest, Campbell will book concerts for his wife, Muriel Rahn, star of "Carmen Jones," and Lois Towles, pianist of Fisk University.

66

CLOSING THE BOOKS ON THE 1945-46 CAMPAIGN

THE theatrical season of 1945-1946 brought down its final curtain last Friday evening, May 31, thanks to Equity. A survey of the drama archives will disclose that Broadway theatregoers were offered a total of seventy-nine premieres (counting "Oedipus" and "The Critic" as one bill) during the departed term. There were forty-six plays, thirteen musicals, two revues, eleven revivals and seven other items of varied form. New York Times

A closer study also will reveal that the season just gone fared none too well against last year, when the Main Stem produced sixteen more attractions, or a total of ninety-five, for the edification and/or entertainment of the drama students. In any case, before letting the figures speak for themselves, let it be noted that a good number of holdovers from the previous season or beyond still grace the local boards. With the number of performances, they are:

Life With Father	2,749
Oklahoma!	1,370
The Voice of the Turtle	890
Song of Norway	745
Anna Lucasta	744
I Remember Mama	679
Harvey	675
Dear Ruth	614
The Glass Menagerie	489
Carousel	469

Experimental and amateur plays are not included in the following tabulation. Offerings listed in italic type are continuing, the figures showing the number of performances as of last Friday evening; the rest have closed.

PLAYS

Deep Are the Roots	283
State of the Union	227
Dream Girl	192
The Magnificent Yankee	149
O Mistress Mine	149
Born Yesterday	135
Lute Song	132
Apple of His Eye	118
You Touched Me	109
The Wind Is Ninety	108
Therese	96
The Rugged Path	81
Antigone	70
Home of the Brave	69
Strange Fruit	60
I Like It Here	59
The Mermaids Singing	53
The Ryan Girl	48
January Thaw	48
This, Too, Shall Pass	37
Dunnigan's Daughter	37
The French Touch	33
Brighten the Corner	29
On Whitman Avenue	27

In Which Matters Mathematical of the Recent Season Are Itemized

The Rich Full Life	27
Beggars Are Coming to Town	25
A Sound of Hunting	23
Oh, Brother	23
The Secret Room	21
Swan Song	19
A Joy Forever	16
A Boy Who Lived Twice	15
The Assassin	13
Truckline Cafe	13
Jeb	9
The Next Half Hour	8
Skydrift	7
Walk Hard	7
Flamingo Road	7
Marriage Is for Single People	6
Woman Bites Dog	5
Devils Galore	5
Little Brown Jug	5
Make Yourself at Home	4
Song of Bernadette	3
Live Life Again	2

MUSICALS

Are You With It?	230
Billion Dollar Baby	184
Marinka	165
The Day Before Spring	164
Polonaise	113
St. Louis Woman	71
Carib Song	36
Annie Get Your Gun	18
Nellie Bly	16
The Girl From Nantucket	12
Mr. Strauss Goes to Boston	12
The Duchess Misbehaves	5
Around the World	1

REVUES

Three to Make Ready	98
Call Me Mister	50

REVIVALS

The Red Mill	262
Pygmalion	179
Show Boat	167
Hamlet	131
The Would-Be Gentleman	77
He Who Gets Slapped	46
The Desert Song	45
The Winter's Tale	39
Candida	23
Little Women	18
As You Like It	7

RETURN ENGAGEMENTS

Carmen Jones	32
The Tempest	24

VAUDEVILLE

Concert Varieties	36

OLD VIC COMPANY

Henry IV, Part 1	12
The Critic	8
Oedipus	8
Uncle Vanya	5
Henry IV, Part 2	5

WITHDRAWALS

Each year there are a number of potential offerings that never quite manage to arrive on Broadway after the tryout, casting or rehearsal stage. Below is the season's list:

Portrait in Black, by Ivan Goff and Ben Roberts. Producer: Leland Hayward.

A Gift for the Bride, by Andrew Solt. Producers: Jules Leventhal and the Shuberts.

You Twinkle Only Once, by Aben Kandel. Producer: Martin Blaine.

By Appointment Only, by Bene Russell. Producer: Dave Wolper.

St. Lazare's Pharmacy, by Miklos Laszlo. Producers: Eddie Dowling and Louis J. Singer.

Questionable Ladies, by Margery Williams. Producers: Morris Green, Lou DuFour and George Rilling.

One Shoe Off, by Mark Reed. Producer: George Abbott.

West of the Moon, by Louis Bromfield and Laslo Vadnay. Producers: Alexander Ince and Albert de Courville.

Miss Jones, by Ruth Gordon. Producer: Max Gordon.

Twilight Bar, by Arthur Koestler. Producer: George Abbott.

Between Covers, by Charles Raddock. Producer: Leslye Karen.

The Joyous Season, by Philip Barry. Producer: Arthur Hopkins.

Salute to Murder, by Myron C. Fagan. Producer: Bruce V. Fagan.

Love in the Snow, by Rowland Leigh and Ralph Benatzky. Producer: Shuberts.

Emily, by John Colton and Robert Harris. Producers: Shuberts and Albert de Courville.

Forever Is Now, by Adele Longmire. Producer: Gertrude Macy.

Rose Manor, by Anne-Marie Jungmann. Producer: Miss Jungmann.

Mr. Cooper's Left Hand, by Clifford Goldsmith. Producers: George Abbott and Richard Myers.

Caviar to the General, by George S. George and Eugenie Leontovich. Producers: Theron Bamberger and Robert Henderson.

Spring in Brazil, a revue starring Milton Berle. Producers: Lee Shubert and Monte Proser.

Of All People, by Ralph Spence. Producers: Monte Proser and Walter Batchelor.

Judy O'Connor, by Andrew Solt and Frank Ross. Producer: Mr. Ross.

Dearly Beloved, by Lula Vollmer. Producer: Howard Lang.

Shootin' Star, a musical with book by Walter Hart, Lewis Jacobs and Halsted Welles; music by Sol Kaplan, and lyrics by Bob Russell. Producers: Max Liebman and Joseph Kipness.

Bigger Than Barnum, by Fred Rath and Lee Sands. Produced by the authors.

Last House on the Left, by Jean Carmen and Irish Owen. Producer: Viola Rubber.

Murder Without Crime, a revival of the J. Lee Thompson play. Producer: Theodore C. Ruskin.

Lambs Will Gamble, by Lew Lipton and Ralph Murphy. Producers: Helen Bonfils and George Somnes.

DERIVATIVES

A number of this season's shows had their origins in novels, stories and other plays. Herewith, the list:

St. Louis Woman (novel).
Flamingo Road (novel).
Song of Bernadette (novel).
Walk Hard (novel).
Strange Fruit (novel).
Are You With It? (novel).
Therese (novel).

And the following were importations from abroad:

Antigone (Paris).
Lute Song (China).
O Mistress Mine (London).

SCREEN SALES

Every season the cinema magnates acquire the motion picture rights to Broadway shows, unproduced works and other grist for the Hollywood mill. This being no different than any other season, the West Coast picture-makers have dug into their jeans to the extent of \$2,026,000, the figure not including prices that were not made known. The amount for the previous theatrical year was \$3,740,000, or \$1,714,000 more. In any case, herewith the list of sales, their estimated prices and the buyers: New York Times

PARAMOUNT

State of the Union ....\$300,000 (plus 50% of picture's gross receipts after cost of film production has been recouped)
Dream Girl \$300,000
Oh, Brother \$76,000

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

The Day Before Spring \$250,000
The Rich Full Life ....\$75,000 (deposit toward ceiling of \$225,000)
The Birds and the Bees ....\$50,000 (unproduced play)
A Place in the Sun .... (no price specified)
How Now, Hecate? .... (no price specified)

TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX

The Late George Apley \$275,000

SAM BISCHOFF

Are You With It? \$200,000

UNIVERSAL

Up in Central Park \$100,000
Mexican Hayride \$50,000

JACK SKIRBALL & BRUCE MANNING

Portrait in Black ....\$100,000 (plus percentage of distributors' gross)

HAL B. WALLIS

Beggars Are Coming to Town, \$100,000

R-K-O

The Lawyer ....\$25,000 (unproduced play)

JESSE LASKY

Silk Hat Harry ....\$50,000 (unproduced play)
Intermission.. (no price specified)

INTERNAT'L PICTURES CORP.

Bloomer Girl .... (deal provides for a substantial, but unspecified, interest in the film's net profits)

MARY PICKFORD

Champagne for Everybody .... (no price specified)

ROBERT & RAYMOND HAKIM

Heartbreak... (no price specified)

WALTER WANGER

If I Love You ....\$50,000 (unpublished play)

A. PAM BLUMENTHAL

The Secret Room .... (no price specified)

AL BLOOMINGDALE

Sweet Charity \$25,000

ALFRED HITCHCOCK

Under Capricorn .... (no price specified; unproduced play)

MARK HELLINGER

The Hero..... (no price specified)

STORY PRODUCTIONS

Home of the Brave .... (no price specified)

Sunday 6-2-46 New York Times

The News, Birmingham, Ala.

EUGENE O'NEILL'S "Emperor Jones" was presented for the first time by the original Provincetown Players, with Charles Gilpin, a colored actor, in the title role. The group wanted to cast a white but found that no such actor could interpret the lines properly. Gilpin received rave notices and huzzahs from both press and public and, as a result, was later invited to the annual dinner of the Drama League in recognition of his fine portrayal of the "emperor." But some of the bigots among the league's members were aghast at the idea of seating a Negro at a table with his white craft-brethren. The more American-minded, however, defended the league's action, scoring those who wanted racial barriers in the theater. The incident stirred a storm of controversy in show business circles and in drama columns, with the foes of white supremacy emerging as victors. Bigotry took a lashing when Gilpin was made guest of honor and, instead of an original 300 attendees, over 1,000 celebrities paid him tribute at the scheduled dinner. Tues. 10-12-46

"Anna Lucasta" Made Others Millions

American Negro Theatre Proves to Be Goose That Laid Golden Egg but As Means to An End for Both Author and Producer of Hit Play

Afro-American

BY DON DELEIGHBUR

NEW YORK—If it had not been for Abram Hill, organizer and director of the new-famous American Negro Theatre, the name Philip Yordan would, perhaps, be still unknown in the ranks of top-flight playwrights.

It was Abe Hill who read the script for "Anna Lucasta," and gave it a tryout with all-ANT cast in his Library Theatra here.

The rest of the story is known all over the world, how the play became one of the biggest dramatic hits in many seasons on Broadway and how the profits soared to such an extent, that two companies were organized and a third is under consideration.

The dramma brought to the professional stage such actresses and actors as Hilda Simms, Frederick O'Neal, Charles Swain and Inge Hardison. It has also made a small fortune for its producer John Wildberg. 4-27-46

Shut Out Of Film Version

Now they're talking of a moving picture version of it but somebody like Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford or Greer Garson as the lead; not Lena Horne, Hilda Simms or any of top actresses.

In the meantime, Yordan has written a musical comedy, "Windy City," that will feature an all white cast. It is to be doubted if Hill, who opened the door for Yordan, will get any further consideration from Yordan. He was only the means to an end.

"Windy City" makes only one racial concession the hiring of Katherine Dunham as choreographer, but Miss Dunham won't be seen in it. What we have in this case are the elements that are present in many other phases of theatre and entertainment activities. Baltimore, Md.

We Teach Others

Our musicians go out of their way to teach others how to phrase, acquire rhythm, how to ad lib, etc., and then watch them climb to undying fame. They get only the satisfaction of being able to say, "Man, I showed him how to do that when he was first starting out."

4-27-46

Our dancers do the same. It all amounts to the fact that we stick our necks out and are unable to protect ourselves when the chips begin falling.

Abe Hill also wrote a stage play, "Walk Hard," based on the novel by Len Zinberg, and presented it at the Chan Theatre in Downtown New York. It flopped. 4-27-46

The play had several members of the ANT in its cast, which also included some whites, among them, Mickey Walker, former middleweight champion. Walker had no previous stage experience, yet "Walk Hard" will launch him on a theatrical career because most of the critics who saw it, began patting Mickey on his broad shoulders as another potential star.

Box Office For Others

Long after the colored members of the cast have been forgotten, Mickey Walker may be up in the lights and realizing a fond dream on groundwork done by one of us. The blame and responsibility, however, are on us. We open doors for others and close them for ourselves. Right now the entertainment and music world in New York City and elsewhere was never more receptive of colored subjects and performers.

Producers, agents and managers know that today we are a great box office. However, in the swindle, we sell ourselves short because little is thought out before we start doing things that inevitably get us boxed out of the big money or billing that we are entitled to.

Robeson In 'Masses' Pageant

Worker
New York, N.Y.
Sun 9-1-46

The editors of the New Masses announced today that the magazine will sponsor an exciting and unique production titled **Adventure Dramatic** at Carnegie Hall, Sunday evening, Sept. 22, with Paul Robeson, Lena Horne and Paul Draper combining their talents with the stage production of Morris Watson's Living Newspaper dramatization of the Albert Kahn-Michael Sayers book, **The Great Conspiracy Against Russia.**

Joseph North, editor of New Masses, also revealed that Stage for Action is now in the process of casting, staging and rehearsing **The Great Conspiracy.** Don Hershey will be the producer, Brett Warren, co-originator with Morris Watson of the Living Newspaper technique, will be responsible for the direction. Peggy Clark will do the scenic design and lighting and Billy Rollo is stage manager.

Adventure Dramatic is New Masses overall production title for its unique Carnegie Hall stage production. The title means what it says, according to Mr. North, for on Sept. 22, the stage of the 57th St. concert hall will be crowded with stellar names from the arts, theatre and

PAUL ROBESON

literary fields. They will include, in addition to the professional cast from Stage for Action, artist Max Weber, Negro educator Dr. W. E. DuBois, artist Robert Gwathmey, poet Alfred Kreymborg, artist William Gropper, authors Howard Selsam and Howard Fast, in addition to a host of others.

America's most renowned baritone and people's champion, Paul Robeson, will join with Lena Horne, noted Negro actress and singer and Paul Draper, America's foremost modern interpretative dancer, in a concert for Democracy which will portray in song and dance the cultural contribution of the arts in the fight for freedom. Sun 9-1-46

Tickets for the **New Masses** affair are on sale at the editorial offices of the magazine, 104 E 9 St., telephone GR. 3-5146, and at the following bookstores: Bookfair, 133 W. 44 St., (Br. 9-5824), Workers Bookshop, 50 E. 13 St., (AL. 4-6953) and Jefferson School Workshop, 575 Ave. of the Americas (WA. 9-1602).

The Bilbo of Broadway

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

By Samuel Sillen

THERE are two ways of telling Westbrook Pegler and George Jean Nathan apart. One is that they appear on different pages of Hearst's **Journal-American.** The other is that Nathan, out of habit, writes about the theater.

Nathan's major complaint against the theater is that it employs too many Negroes. This chronic vulgarian and confirmed Bourbon does not conceal his yen for the good old days of the minstrel show. He is Bilbo's representative on Broadway. Wed. 11-6-46

Last week, he wrote a column entitled "Black Up, You-All, and Get a Job." The title alone speaks volumes about the advanced stage of decay which the Hearst drama critic has reached. The column wallows in the mire of bigotry.

Nathan sneers at the "expanding Negrophile circles" that deplore the limited opportunities offered by the American theater to Negro artists. "The alleged limited opportunities are largely imaginary," he says. "The Negro today enjoys opportunities in the theater relatively every bit as plentiful as his white brothers and sisters; indeed, enjoys them proportionately in even greater degree. Since there probably are at least fifty whites for every Negro seeking roles, the latter's average in getting them is notably the better."

This is wild raving with a vengeance. It follows from Nathan's allegation that the white actors ought to feel they are being discriminated against because their skin is white. That accounts for the title, "Black Up, You-All, and Get a Job." It follows, moreover, that the Negro actor ought to bow down in gratitude to the producers, and, what is more, stop pushing into places where they don't belong.

This is Bilboism on Broadway. And of course it is Nathan's way of hitting back against the gains that have been made during the past few years with respect to Negro employment in the theater. These gains are real, but they are miles from having brought equality of opportunity.

Like his paymaster, Nathan writhes in anguish at the spectacle of a Robeson playing Othello or of a Canada Lee playing the role of a white man in **The Duchess of Malfi.** And of course Nathan takes the occasion to reiterate his white-supremacy convictions by declaring that in **Lysistrata** "the Negro company was in greater part even less equal to the play than a white one was."

NATHAN may speak for Hearst, but he does not speak for the American theater. The temper of decent-minded people associated with the theater was demonstrated recently in connection with Maxwell Anderson's new play, **Joan of Lorraine.** The play opened in Washington, D. C., last week at the Lisner Auditorium. The theater was picketed because it discriminates against Negroes.

Actress Ingrid Bergman, starring in the show, said that she would not have opened in Washington had she known in advance of the discrimination practices in the theaters of the nation's capital. With the other members of the cast of **Joan of Lorraine** she voted to send a protest to Actors Equity, which has a committee investigating Jimcrow practices in the theater.

At a protest mass meeting a statement was read by Maxwell Anderson, who has asked the Dramatists' Guild for a ruling regarding cancellation of runs in theaters discriminating on either side of the footlights.

Playwright Robert E. Sherwood wrote to the **Washington Post:** "In the National Theater, Negroes are permitted in the audience but not on the stage. At the Uline Arena, Negroes are admitted to prize fights but not to such intellectual entertainment as **Icecapades.**"

That is the situation in our nation's capital at the very moment that our State Department protests what it virtuously conceives to be violations of democracy in the Balkans.

The lines on this issue are clearly drawn. It is a fight between people like George Jean Nathan and Washington's theater owners on the one hand, democratic-minded theater people like Maxwell Anderson and Robert E. Sherwood, expressing the deepest feelings of the vast majority of Americans on the other hand. The larger battle for democracy in the country is vividly reflected in this sector of struggle.

On the 'Bilbo Of Broadway'

The Worker
New York, N.Y.

Chicago, Ill.

Editor, The Worker:

Among the excellent articles appearing in the DW, I enjoy Samuel Sillen's articles in the field of cultural activities. What attracted my attention recently was the piece, "The Bilbo of Broadway." Sun. 11-17-46

I believe with Sillen, the theater, and the Negro are far above the annoying insults of a George Jean Nathan. Certainly all races rate proportionate representation, not only in the theater but in business and Congress as well.

Therefore, let us not be annoyed by the sticks and stones thrown by Nathan and his ilk. But let us all unite in a fight to end discrimination and to win representation in the arts, literature, theater, education and the government for all minority groups.

ISRAEL FOUR

The Colored Artist in the American Theatre

The Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

By JOSE FERRER

[Courtesy Variety magazine from its fortieth anniversary edition of Jan. 9, 1946.]

Jose Ferrer

Paul Robeson

Hilda Simms

Canada Lee

Ethel Waters

"During rehearsals of "Strange Fruit," I gave an interview to a young lady reporter from one of the colored (racial designation changed to conform with AFRO - AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS' policy) papers.

"How's Miss So-and-so's performance shaping up?" she asked, referring to one of the colored actresses in the cast. "Splendidly," I answered. "I think she's a very talented actress." 1-19-46

"What do you think of her future as an actress?" she went on. And after considering the wisdom of such a course, I finally told her exactly what I thought. "I don't think she has any to think of."

"Why not, if you think she's such a good actress?"

No Real Chance

"Because she is colored, and in our theatre no colored actor or actress has a real chance."

Now, several months later, having been asked by Variety to write an article on colored in the American theatre, I see no honest way of beginning except to tell this sorry anecdote, which really tells the story as of today.

It is useless to point to Paul Robeson, Ethel Waters, Canada Lee, Hilda Simms, Lena Horne, and any other of the very gifted colored artists we have in show business. The fact of the matter is that none of them has really fulfilled his or her potential as a theatre artist.

No Suitable Vehicle

Ethel Waters has proved in "Mamba's Daughters" that she was what hundreds of thousands of people considered a great actress, but has not since found a suitable dramatic vehicle.

Paul Robeson is often referred to as an actor as well as a singer, but actually how many plays can you mention that he has been permitted to act in besides "Emperor Jones," "All God's Chillun," and "Othello"?

There are others, but they are few, and certainly far less than he has deserved.

Canada Lee has certainly succeeded in making more of a career for himself than the average, but even he hasn't had his just deserts. 1-19-46

White Actors as Colored

Can you honestly conceive of a colored actor or actress playing a great comedy or dramatic or lyric role simply on the grounds of ability, regardless of color? It would be absurd to cast colored as a white man, you say, and yet no one objected in the past when white actors played colored parts in "Lulu Belle," in "Sweet River," in "Scarlet Sister Mary," to mention only three.

Even the performers, that is to say, those who can sing and dance, are permitted to do so only in a segregated way. They appear alone, or with other colored artists, or in some jungle setting where white explorers have discovered them, and where they appear as some freakish manifestation of Mother Nature's infinite variety.

This is the situation of today. What of tomorrow?

I think there is hope. First and foremost, the colored theatre artist is insisting on making a name for himself, whether he is encouraged to do so or not, and despite terrible odds. 1-19-46

Universities Opening Way

Colored universities and theatres are training more and more actors who demand a hearing. White universities, too, are beginning to give young colored aspirants in the theatre a chance.

"Anna Lucasta" made Broadway and stayed there. "Deep Are the Roots" is playing colored and white side by side, making a vital social point and money at the same time. Colored and white chorus boys and girls dance side by side in "On the Town," and apparently no one is any the worse for this unheard-of procedure.

Herman Shumlin is preparing a production of Robert Ardrey's play "Jeb." And it would be the worst sort of false modesty for me not to mention Lillian Smith's "Strange Fruit," where actors of both races operate eight times a week in democratic and harmonious collaboration. 1-19-46

Freedom Can Be Hastened

But the complete freedom of colored in the theatre can be hastened. There are things that can be done, by those of us who feel they should be done: We can try to eliminate the slightly condescending attitude that a great many of us have toward colored, despite the friendliest intentions.

We can try to convince our less prejudiced co-workers in the theatre that there is a great injustice being perpetrated all around us. It is an unfortunately little known fact that Paul Robeson has built his entire career and gained not only national but international fame by appearing only before non-segregated audiences.

Since I have had the inestimable good fortune to support him in "Othello" for two seasons, and since I have seen first hand some of the fabulous results that can be achieved by taking this sensible stand, I am putting in my small contribution by refusing ever again to act in or produce a play that is to be shown to a segregated audience.

Hope Others Follow

I hope that others much more influential and much more important will take up the cudgel. It is not too difficult, and, believe me, it can do a lot of good.

We of the theatre are artists, and in the history of the world it has always been the artists who, by their very nature, their insistence on merit and quality rather than arbitrary social distinctions, have always practiced ways of living and doing that politicians endorse much later when it becomes economically and politically expedient to do so.

Actors have always been international. Where in the world don't they know of Charlie Chaplin and Mary Pickford and Douglass Fairbanks and Harold Lloyd and Greta Garbo and Bing Crosby? And didn't Bernhardt and Duse tour the world? 1-19-46

Live in One World

And haven't we for years applauded the Ballet Russe and Italian and German opera and Chaliapin and Mei Lan Fang? And today, politicians are discovering that we live in One World.

I think it is up to us, the artists, all over again. We can prove that one can look at another human being and be no more affected by the color of his skin than by the color of his hair or his eyes.

And what's more, I think that we can do it, are starting to do it, and will do it, depending on how much we really want to.

Boston ripe for clean-up, evens sans "Strange Fruit"

Los Angeles Tribune, Calif. Sat 2-23-46

BOSTON—This city is not as pure in heart as its rejection of "Strange Fruit" (for "obscenity") would seem to indicate, if anyone thought it was, that is.

The license for this opinion comes from a good authority, Boston Mayor Curley himself, who last week described the Essex st. night life belt here as "Hell's Half Acre" and told theatre and entertainment representatives, "The time has come to end this holiday in vice."

Confessing that Boston has come to be regarded everywhere as "a dump for obscenity on the stage", Curley called for an immediate clean-up of theatres, night clubs, and cafes, asserting that they should be "made to observe the moral law in entertainment as well as any other group."

The mayor said he had received complaints about female impersonators, the portrayal of sex vices, the use of drugs, repulsive contortionists, indecent placards, and dialogue detrimental to race, creed, and color, and that he knew "more soldiers and sailors were ruined in that district during the war than in the rest of the city—it's worse than Scollay sq." (Scollay sq. is another of Boston's scenic spots.) Sat 2-23-46

"The clergy is up in arms", he told the theatre group. "You know right from wrong just as well as the ministers. Entertainment in Boston will be cleaned up or closed up."

Also outspoken in the meeting was chairman (Miss) Mary E. Driscoll, of the Boston licensing board, who observed trenchantly, "Some of the bald-headed old fellows who go to those places think a show isn't any good without filth."

Canada Frowns On 'Problem' Plays

Chicago Defender Ill.

TORONTO—(ANP)—Canadian theatre patrons here have shown an interest in "Carmen Jones" but have registered less enthusiasm in "Deep Are The Roots" and "Strange Fruit." 3-16-46

"Carmen Jones," a Billy Rose production, totaled an advance sale of $20,000 and has been a sell-out since arriving here. "Deep Are The Roots" is receiving the same cold welcome as "Strange Fruit" received earlier in the season, with reported sales of $6,500 for the 1,525 seats at the Royal Alexander at a $3 ceiling. Sat.

The general impression is that the Negro question does not interest Canadians. 3-16-46

END OF RACE HATE HELD VITAL TO U. N.

4-13-46

'Deep Are the Roots' Author Says It Is Harder to Free Men's Minds Than Slaves

New York Times

If there is to be a world of United Nations, we must first break down group and racial prejudices, James Gow, co-author of "Deep Are the Roots," said yesterday, in commenting on the role to be played by the American theatre in combating race prejudice. Mr. Gow took part in a discussion sponsored by the New York Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions in the Willkie Memorial Building, 20 West Fortieth Street.

Mr. Gow said that "striking off bonds that bind men's minds is more difficult than freeing slaves," and saw a moral contradiction between our revolutionary traditions on one hand and our ideology of racial inferiority on the other.

"Our good traditions which ought to set the tone of the country are offset by the lasting memories of chattel slavery," he said.

"It is because we find discrimination in every walk of life that it is now a question of what prejudice does to white people. I am certain that it does something to us white people. If we limit the lives of the people we oppress we also limit our own."

Mr. Gow declared that in New York, "we coop up one-tenth of the people who are our fellow-citizens in the worst apartments in the city at rentals that are outrageous." By so doing, he added, we generate fears of the Negro "which actually grow out of guilt feelings." N.Y. N.Y.

José Ferrer, co-star for two years with Paul Robeson in "Othello," took issue with Mr. Gow on the question of "who lives in the worst houses in New York."

Negro Impersonations Bring Fame And Fortune To Whites

Memphis World Tennessee

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—Impersonating Negroes has brought fame and fortune to white comedians, but very little to Negro comedians. 4-12-46

That is the consensus of opinion among leading theatrical critics today on the question of the Negro comedian's role in portraying Negro humor. The comic radio team of Amos 'n' Andy, played by Charles J. Correll and Freeman F. Gosden, was given as an example. They earn approximately $1,000,000 annually and their program attracts about 20,000,000 listeners.

Such popular white comedians as Al Jolson, Honey Boy Evans and Lew Dockstader gained fame and fortune by characterizing Negroes. Many blackface comedians have been criticized for inelegant comedy. But many of the critics conceded that racial and psychological factors have handicapped Negro comedians in selling Negro antics to white audiences with the same degree of success as white comedians.

COMEDY, A DIFFICULT ART

Some recall the smooth and intelligent comedy of Bert Williams, but point out that Williams had no peers in comedy. Only a few men are able to produce laughs in the Williams' manner, they say. Comedy is rated as the most difficult art in show business. Gag writing requires a high degree of training.

Patrons might laugh, but often frown, on the vulgar jokes used by many Negro comedians in theaters and night clubs. A knowledge of comedy will produce laughs, theatrical critics claim, without repeated reference to sex or race. They contrasted Edgar Bergen's jokes with some heard in our best places of entertainment. Fri 4-12-46

Credit for removing anti-Negro stereotype lines from their shows was given to Jack Benny, Amos 'n' Andy, and Danny Kaye. Chas. J. Correll and Freeman F. Gosden even avoid using the word "kinky" hair. They say "curly." Amos 'n' Andy's show was born here with the approval of Negro citizens.

ROBERT E. SHERWOOD

Plan Theatre Anti-Bias Body

Robert E. Sherwood, addressing 500 theatrical workers at a meeting sponsored by the Theatre Chapter American Veterans Committee, declared he would not allow any play he wrote to be performed in any theatre which practiced a Jimcrow policy.

Composer Marc Blitzstein, actress Betty Garrett, actors Canada Lee, Buddy Ebsen and Eliott Sullivan cited discrimination in the orchestra pit, the Jimcrow policy of the International Alliance of Theatre and Stage Employes, and the lack of Negroes in the wardrobe mistresses union.

The meeting voted to set up a Theatrical Fair Practices Council.

Negro Actors Will Get Equal Housing

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK—In response to the demands of various theatrical groups the National Travelers' Aid Association announced that they will cooperate with actors on tour meeting a house shortage, particularly Negro theatrical people, who find hotel accommodations difficult to find. Sat.

Several meetings conducted by Equity, the League of New York Theatres and the Association of Theatrical Managers and Agents have held conferences with the aid group protesting the segregated housing assigned to Negroes whenever they are on tour with a road show. Paul Robeson and leading stars spoke at these gatherings and voiced their disapproval of managers obtaining quarters for white persons in a show in the high class hotels and for Negroes across the railroad tracks. 1-26-46

Travelers' Aid, which has local chapters scattered throughout the country, will hereafter furnish actors, agents and advance men all available information on transients' housing facilities, Equity said.

Broadway star, invited not only the participants but the entire benefit committee and friends out to her nearby country estate for one of those parties you read about. A well-stocked bar and heavily laden buffet was almost enough in itself, but the piece de resistance was to come later. LUTHER SAXON and URYALEE LEONARDOS did excerpts from "Carmen Jones"; SAMUEL JENNINGS gave samples of the way his voice leaves customers spellbound at Well's; GARLAND WILSON and DON RAPHAEL did pretty wonderful things on the piano; AVON LONG was AVON LONG and Sportin' Life all over again, and scored solidly with his own composition, "Wine Makes You Feel Like You Love Everybody". Sat. 6-15-46

Then LIBBY and JOSH WHITE did a number of the folk songs they do so well, ending up with that terrific rendition of "Strange Fruit" that leaves you pretty limp with an emotional hangover. To get everybody back in a party mood, THELMA CARPENTER got up to

THELMA CARPENTER

sing a few numbers in her inimitable style, with GARLAND WILSON at the piano. She sang song after song, old tunes, new tunes that grabbed you suddenly by the spine and ran up and down the vertebrae like nimble fingers rippling along a harp. Finally, she ended by singing a song most of us had never heard before—"I Was Too Good to Him" from ED WYNN'S old hit, "Simple Simon". It's a real torch tune, and Thelma gave it all the unusual intonations and heartaches her voice possesses. And when she had finished, the room was quiet for a second before breaking out in a loud ovation. Miss Holman went over to Thelma and from where I sat it seemed that her eyes were wet.

"Thelma," said the girl who had skyrocketed to fame and fortune because of "Moanin' Low", one of the first of torch songs, "I'd give ANYTHING to be able to sing like that!"

All of which, as I said in the case of Hepburn, only goes to show you.

Actors' Equity Presented with Touring Problem Faced in South

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Conditions which the colored actor has to face on the road in the South were aired before the Actors' Equity Guild here last week by Mercedes Gilbert and Warren Coleman.

Mr. Coleman, formerly of the cast of "Porgy and Bess" and now with "Anna Lucasta" on Broadway, related some of the disadvantages in travel and accommodations while on tour with road shows. Sat 5-4-46

Among the many things Mr. Coleman charged were that many times actors had to sleep on cots in their dressing rooms and sit up all night in stations and all-night restaurants because of bias on the part of white hotels and housing conditions.

Accommodations Undesirable

"Many times the colored actor, especially out of the larger cities, has to stay in small, dark, dirty rooms," he said.

"A lot of times when I was playing in 'Porgy and Bess' we would arrive in a town and find that there were not adequate accommodations.

"We would then go to a preacher or to Pullman porters, or contact teachers. From them we would get a list of names of people, who would take us for a couple of nights—many times at a price.

$5 for Attic Bed

"I've had to pay $5 a night to sleep in an attic. I've had to pay regular hotel rates to sleep on an old dirty mat on the floor.

"There were many times when I have spent from 2 o'clock in the afternoon until midnight trying to find a room, and then end up on a couch in somebody's living room."

It was Mr. Coleman's hope that Equity would draw up a resolution protesting the situation as it exists and present it to the Federal Government.

Equity Promises Aid

Bert Lytell, Equity's president, replied what the government might do was problematic, but that its colored members could expect that Equity would do all it could for them. Sat 5-4-46

Mr. Coleman also expressed the hope that Equity would work out a plan whereby it will have definite contracts with one or two major hotels in every community, that is likely to have road shows with mixed casts, which will accept theatrical people regardless of race, creed or color.

ONE OF THE REALLY swell things I like about people in the theatre is not only that unusual camaraderie which exists between performers, but a healthy respect for the other guy's talent, and the democratic attitude which one artist shows another regardless of that well-worn phrase—"race, creed or color."

For example, a group of us journeyed up to Stamford, Conn., the other night for an annual benefit show that culminated in not only a surprise, but as a fitting illustration of the democratic spirit found among the intelligent in show business.

LIBBY HOLMAN, the famous

Stage And Radio Stars Due For Big Break

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 8-10-46

By HELEN SPAULDING

George Jean Nathan writing in Esquire magazine passes top merit for the best performances in plays and musicals of the past season to many bronze stars.

Nominations in the way of relative merit for 1945-1946 successes include: Ruby Hill for the best novice actress' performance and the most beautiful actress, in "St. Louis Woman" musical; Ossie Davis, best novice actor's performance, in "Jeb;" and Juano Hermandez, best subsidiary role actor, in "Strange Fruit."

Here's hoping that we have as much to offer this season. Already it seems as though we're on the upward path with such notable artists as Paul Robeson preparing for Fall rehearsals of Dorothy Hayward's "Set My People Free;" Gribble's Fall production of mixed cast "Romeo and Juliet" including Hilda Simms, Frederick O'Neal, and George Fisher; and bids for Lena Horne's appearance in "Beggar's Opera" with Duke Ellington and band. We have also heard rumors of new scripts in the making by Langston Hughes and Mrs. Paul Robeson. Not to mention the fine record Canada Lee's "On Whitman Avenue" is currently contributing to the development of democracy.

Ethel Waters Stays Atop Critics' Poll Since 1939

Afro-American

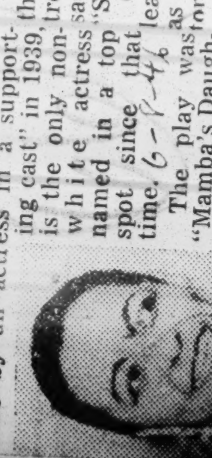
NEW YORK.—Ethel Waters, who won the New York drama critics' acclaim of "best performance by an actress in a supporting cast" in 1939, is the only non-white actress named in a top spot since that time. 6-8-46

The play was "Mamba's Daughter," with Willie Bryant in the supporting role.

Barbara Bel Geddes, white, co-star with Gordon Heath in "Deep Are the Roots," this year, was polled as the "most promising young actress"; "best performance by an actress in a supporting cast," and third as "best performance in a straight play."

Evelyn Ellis ranked seventh in the "best performance by an actress in a supporting cast" in the same play, and Pearl Bailey of "St. Louis Woman," eighth.

Ossie Davis, who played the leading role in "Jeb," placed sixth as the "most promising young actor."



Ethel Waters

Lena Horne Heads List of Newly Elected IFRG Board

Afro American
Baltimore Md.

HOLLYWOOD (PNS) — Screen actresses Lena Horne and Jean Brooks; Al Jarvis, radio producer, and composer Earl Robinson headed the list of persons elected this week to serve on the board of directors of the International Film and Radio Guild for the fiscal year beginning Feb. 1. Others who will participate on the 18-member board are: Judge Stanley Mosk, Mrs. Eddie (Rochester) Anderson, Lorraine Armstrong, screen writer Henry Blankfort, Catherine B. Garcia, Leon H. Hardwick, Dr. Charles W. Hill, Mary Oyama-Mittwer, Harry Morgan, J. David Orozco, Curtis Mosby, Att'y. David Ravin, Mrs. Noble Sissle and Allen C. Scott.

Miss Horne

The new board will be inducted at the next regular monthly meeting.

2-9-46

The IFRG, an educational organization designed to protect the interests of minorities in the fight against racial stereotyping in the entertainment world, already has begun work on its third annual screen and radio unity awards program to be staged here this spring.

More than 1,000 ballots are now being sent to editors and organizations in this country and abroad in an effort to select those in the entertainment industries throughout the world who have made the most outstanding contributions to interracial understanding and international unity during the last year.

Amsterdam News New York 2-16-46

NINTH YEAR: The Negro Actors Guild of America, Inc., held its ninth annual meeting Sunday, Feb. 3, at the Grand Street Boys Assn. Clubhouse, 106 W. 55th St., thus marking another milestone in the history of this vitally important organization. Among those who highlighted the program, were (above, left to right) Phillipa Schuyler, child prodigy pianist; Mrs. Mabel Roane, administrative secretary of the NAG.; W. C. Handy, treasurer; Dick Campbell, (reading letter from Lilliam Smith); Rev. Laurent Eillsu Youn, who did the benediction; A. Jack Thomas, symphony conductor; and Mary Margaret McBride of radio station, WEAF, who interviewed Mr. Thomas and Miss Schuyler.

2-16-46

Negro Actors Guild Nine Years Old

1-26-46

The Negro Actors Guild will hold its ninth annual meeting at the place of its inception, the Grand Street Boys Association, 106 W 55 st, Sunday afternoon, February 3. As in previous years, the Guild will present two top-ranking artists of the profession.

For this occasion, Phillipa Schuyler, talented young pianist-composer, and Kenneth Spencer, now appearing in **Show Boat,** accompanied by Jonathan Brice, will round out the musical portion of the program. **Elmer A. Carter, Chairman of the Anti-Distrimination Committee of New York,** will chair the meeting as he has done in past years. Guest speakers will be Mary Margaret McBride, Lester Granger and Lillian Smith.

Members and friends of the profession are cordially invited to the Guild's informative annual meeting.

Mary McBride Actors Guild's Guest Speaker

Amsterdam News New York 2-16-46

Highlighted by interviews conducted by the celebrated Mary Margaret McBride of radio station WEAF fame, the ninth annual meeting of the Negro Actors Guild of America was held Sunday, Feb. 3, at the Grand Street Boys Association Clubhouse, 106 W. 55th St. Miss McBride interviewed A. Jack Thomas, the symphony conductor who wielded the baton before an orchestra in Baltimore recently, and Miss Phillippa Schuyler, child piano prodigy.

Well attended, the audience numbered over 500, and was composed of both Negro and white members of this sterling organization, which is doing such excellent work for the colored performer. Miss Schuyler played "The Fountain" by Ravel, and her own composition, "Manhattan Nocturne." Because of illness, Miss Lillian Smith, author of "Strange Fruit," was unable to attend, and a long letter, pertinent to race relations was read by Dick Campbell.

2-16-46

Kenneth Spencer, one of the stars of "Show Boat", sang selections accompanied by Marc D'Albert. Mrs. Fannie E. Robinson chairman of the entertainment committee made a few remarks as did Elmer A. Carter, chairman of the executive board.

Among the celebrities present were Mrs James Weldon Johnson, Florence Marsten of the Screen Actors Guild, Harry Gribble and others. Billy Butler was chairman. The ninth Annual NAG ball will be held, Friday, March 29, at the Savoy Ballroom, it was announced. Mrs. Lena Roberts, Ruth Attaway and Kenneth Spencer were added to the Executive Board. Noble Sissle is president of the Negro Actors Guild, with Bill Robinson as honorary chairman.

NEGRO ACTORS' ELECTION

New York Times

Guild Makes Abbie Mitchell Its Executive Secretary

The Negro Actors Guild of America announced yesterday the election of Abbie Mitchell, veteran actress, as its executive secretary, an honorary post without salary. Miss Mitchell will be honored by the executive board within the next ten days on having made "the outstanding contribution to the dramatic and musical fields." Frederick O'Neal was appointed chairman of the executive board and Mabel A. Roane will continue with the administrative duties of the group.

2-12-46

The meeting also re-elected Bill Robinson as honorary president; Noble Sissle, president; Elmer A. Carter, chairman of the finance board and vice chairman of the executive board; W. C. Handy, treasurer; Robert P. Braddicks, assistant treasurer; Harry G. Bragg, counsel; Rev. John H. Johnson, chaplain; Fredi Washington, recording secretary; Fannie E. Robinson, chairman of entertainment committee; LeRoy Butler, memorial committee; Billy Butler, publicity committee; John S. Brown, historian, and Lena Roberts, chairman of the sick committee.

Representatives of the Theatre. **The Negro Actors Guild presented Abbie Mitchell (left) with a bronze plaque last Monday at a dinner in her honor. Abbie, who is the Guild's new executive secretary, is shown here receiving the award from the out-going secretary, Georgette Harvey. Both actresses are well known in the legitimate theatre. Miss Harvey is at present appearing in the hit-comedy, "Anna Lucasta", while Miss Mitchell will play Canada Lee's mother in his new production of "On Whitman Avenue," Maxine Wood's prize-winning play. Miss Mitchell was given an award "for outstanding achievement in music and drama—for having successfully pioneered in greater glory for herself and fellow actors."**

Abbie Mitchell Is Elected As Negro Actors Guild Officer

Amsterdam News Sat 2-23-46
New York New York

The Negro Actors Guild of America, Inc., elected Abbie Mitchell, veteran actress, the executive secretary. The constitution stipulates that each year an outstanding member of the profession shall serve in an honorary capacity and without salary. The choice of Abbie Mitchell is based of course upon the definite and outstanding contribution to the dramatic and musical fields. The executive board will honor Miss Mitchell at a dinner within the next ten days.

Frederick O'Neal was unanimously appointed chairman of the Executive Board. Mabel A. Roane will continue with the administrative duties of the organization, where she has carried on for seven years.

Also on the agenda of this important meeting of the organization was the re-election of the officers: Bill Robinson, Honorary President, Noble Sissle, President, Elmer A. Carter, chairman of Finance Board and vice-chairman of the Executive Board, W. C. Handy, treasurer, Robert P. Braddicks, assistant treasurer, Harry G. Bragg, council, Reverend John H. Johnson, chaplain, Fredi Washington, recording secretary, Fannie E. Robinson chairman, entertainment committee, Leroy Butler, Memorial committee, Billy Butler, publicity and annual meeting committee, John S. Brown historian, Lena Roberts, chairman Sick Committee. The three new members elected to serve for three years on the Executive Board are Lena Roberts, Kenneth Spencer and Ruth Atteway.

Pittsburgh Courier

AT TIMES HALL — Mercedes Gilbert, outstanding actress, most recently featured in "Carib Song," brings her One Woman Theatre to Times Hall, formerly the Little Theatre, Forty-fourth Street, west of Broadway, New York, Sunday evening. Her program, which she has written herself, includes "Morning in the Country," a descriptive monologue; the character sketches, "In a Court Room" and "Harlem Street Scene," and the solo drama, "Three Women in His Life." Pa.

66b 1946

Actors & Actresses: Canada Lee

Canada Lee, Former Boxer, Eyes Return to Ring Game

NEW YORK. — According to Ring Magazine, generally-recognized "Bible" of the boxing game, Canada Lee, now a leading stage and radio star, is contemplating a return to his first love—boxing—but as a manager.

The article, based on an interview with Lee and written by Irving Rudd, says in part:

"I hope to build a stable of good, earnest kids who want to learn, and hope to have them competing against the best in their class," Lee told the writer.

Because his triumphs in "Native Son," "Anna Lucasta," "The Tempest," and his part in the motion picture, "Lifeboat," have so firmly entrenched him as a headliner in the acting profession, many people have forgotten the fact that Canada Lee was an outstanding boxer when he campaigned professionally from 1927 to 1933.

As a simon-pure, Canada Lee was Metropolitan AAU and New York State welterweight title holder, and when he gave up medal chasing in 1927, he was besieged by managers to join their stables. Lee was the Ray Robinson of his day. In the pro ranks he engaged in more than 175 fights, and what an imposing lot he faced!

Clever, strong, a hard puncher, Lee fought such great scrappers as Vince Dundee, Tommy Freeman, Andy Divoldi, Izzy Grove, Jack Britton, Johnny Indrisano, Al Mello, Pal Silvers, Georgie Levine, Ignacio Ara and Lou Brouillard.

Lee never was knocked out and declares he was floored only three times. In 1929 he was blinded accidentally in a bout with Andy Divoldi in the Garden, but continued to meet the best despite the loss of sight in one eye.

CANADA LEE

Canada Lee, Negro pugilist-turned-actor, got into a wig and grease paint in Boston and made a little modern theatrical history by playing a white man's role opposite Star Elisabeth Bergner in *The Duchess of Malfi*. Critics' judgment: a success. In Wilmington, Del., history repeated itself: a theater manager disavowed racial prejudice but canceled *The Duchess'* engagement.

GARSON KANIN and CANADA LEE discuss plans for a rally to be held today at the Lyceum Theater at 2:30 as the starting gun in a campaign to banish Jim Crow from the theater. Robert E. Sherwood, Betty Garrett and Marc Blitzstein will also speak. Rally is sponsored by the Theater Chapter, American Veterans Committee.

CANADA LEE

Associated Press

CANADA LEE: Man Of Many Roles

By HELEN ORMSBEE
(Reprinted from the N. Y. Herald Tribune)

Canada Lee is proud of being the first Negro to have presented a serious play on Broadway, and when he tells you this he is speaking of "On Whitman Avenue" at the Cort Theatre. He has an important role in the drama, but that isn't what he cares most to talk about. The play's the thing with him; his heart is in it. He chose it for production 16 months ago while he was Shakespeare's Caliban in "The Tempest."

"I'd had the script lying around the house, but I hadn't bothered to read it," he said recently, recalling the way he made his choice. "One day the author, Maxine Wood, telephoned me to know when I was going to look at her script. I felt guilty and so I started reading. The next thing I knew, I was crying. Me, a hard guy!"

The last phrase of Canada Lee's seemed scarcely accurate, however. Though he is an ex-prizefighter, knowing how to take it and how to dish it out, there is something surprisingly gentle about him. It is in his voice, and in the smile that spreads over his round face as he talks.

"This isn't a play about Negroes," he declared. "They're in it, of course, but the real story is about white people—about the poison that can eat into them if they let prejudice run them. It's the white family that breaks up under the strain—not the colored family.

"What happens to the colored family could happen to any other minority group. These people could be Jews or Roman Catholics or Poles or Italians or anybody else in a community that considers them outsiders. 'Don't rent to them; don't sell to them,' people say. Still, the white family divided against itself is the center of it all."

It was at the end of a matinee the other day that your reporter added one more to the crowd of visitors in Mr. Lee's dressing room, all talking at once. So this interview came along in snatches before and after a radio broadcast which the actor had agreed to do between performances. He has inexhaustible energy and is always superimposing assignments like this on his regular schedule, if only they are chances to crusade for "On Whitman Avenue."

"Excitement—I guess I always craved it," he said, lookng back on his earlier days. "When I was a jockey, it was a life-and-death job. It felt fine to me as a kid. Then when I got my growth and was too heavy for a jockey, I took to fighting. That was life-and-death, too.

"Well, a Broadway opening is the same feeling. You go around beforehand not knowing quite what you're doing. You start to put on your shoe, and maybe you reach up and put it on your head. You try to get into your coat, but you can't find the armholes. Then comes the first night of the show, and at the end maybe the audience shouts, 'Bravo!' You say to yourself, 'Boy, this is something!'"

Canada Lee's story is like the Horatio Alger books that he loved to read when he was a youngster. Even the name that he has made famous wasn't his own in the beginning. He was Lionel Canegata, born in New York of parents from the Virgin Islands. The Canegatas had been a family of some substance there, but by the time Canada came along they were just average colored people in West 62nd st.

He was 15 when he ran away and became a jockey. Then, as accidentally as he had got mixed up with horses, he moved along to prizefighting. In eight years of it he made a tidy fortune, but in 1931 he suffered a serious injury to one eye, and his days in the prize ring were numbered. He set up a night club, and kept it running at a loss. By 1933 he was broke. One morning he went to the Harlem YMCA to apply for a job as a stevedore, but that was the day he became an actor.

"There must be something in fate," he observed. "I'd be a stevedore this minute, if that employment line ahead of me hadn't been so long. At the 'Y' there was a Little Theatre, and while I waited I stepped in there. They were starting to rehearse something. It was a Federal Theatre project. 'Hey, read this part,' they said to me, and after that I was with them in several plays. I was on the pay roll.

"Acting was nothing but fun to me, till we did the all-Negro 'Macbeth.' I was Banquo, but it wasn't my part that mattered to me. It was the whole show and what it meant. Orson Welles directed us. I wanted to stay there all the time, watching and listening. I was so excited I couldn't sleep when I went home. I'd found something."

His first Broadway engagement was a small part in "Mamba's Daughters," with Ethel Waters. That was in 1939. In March, 1941, he made his great success in "Native Son," and ever since then he has been in the front rank of American actors.

"I never went to the theatre when I was a kid," he said, "but I was always reading stories and imagining myself a buccaneer, or somebody. I was crazy about Grimm's fairy tales—and later the Alger books and the Tom Swift stories. The first stage production I ever saw was 'Show Boat.' I was a prizefighter by then. How I cried when the man cut Julie's wrist and said, 'One drop of Negro blood makes me a Negro, too.' A big, tough fighter, all muscle, just sobbing."

Praise Lee's Role

BOSTON, —(ANP)— Representing the first attempt of a Negro to portray a white character on the American stage, Canada Lee wearing special white makeup took over the role of the villain, "Daniel de Bosola," in "Duchess of Malfi" and drew enthusiastic praise of critics for his near-perfect impersonation.

According to Critic Elliott Norton of the Post, Lee played the part well, though not perfectly. "Except for the shape of his nose, which is flat and broad," the critic said, "there was nothing in his appearance to suggest his race and nothing in his performance. He proved that a colored man can effectively impersonate a white man on the stage just as whites have been impersonating colored people for centuries."

Critic Cyrus Durgin of the Globe made no attempt to analyze his performance other than to state his voice and makeup offered no clue to his Negro origin. He took this stand because Lee had taken over the part on short notice, after McKay Morris, white, dropped out of the show.

The opinion that Lee's performance would lead to other Negro actors being given parts formerly restricted to whites was shared by Elisabeth Bergner, white female star of the play.

Canada Lee Astounds Critics With Performance In "The Duchess Of Malfi"

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 10-5-46

BOSTON — History may have been made at the Shubert Theatre here last Wednesday when Canada Lee as the villainous Danied de Bosola in the 17th Century melodrama, the 'Duchess Of Malfi," appeared made up as a white man.

So effective was the makeup that it was difficult to tell that Lee was a Negro. Lee used a special white paste, and a wig helped create the illusion that he was

The bringing of Lee to the role came about when McKay Morris (white) withdrew at the last moment. Canada did not appear in the opening performance last Monday—he wanted more time to prepare for the lengthy script. But when he did arrive two days later he was "ready." Lee explained his delay by saying, "The chance was too important for me to take any chances on a poor performance. It may mean the opening of new avenues to my people and goodness knows I did not wish to stand in the doorway with a poor performance due to lack of studying the part.

"Up to now," he said, "Negro actors have been relegated to funny roles. Roles that make fun of a whole race. I hate that. This can prove that art is not limited by color. It can open up whole new fields to the Negro actor.

"I hope it has been a long step toward my being known as Actor Canada Lee—not Canada Lee, Negro actor."

white. The paste was the kind used medically to cover burns and disfiguring marks.

Canada played opposite the show's star, Elisabeth Bergner, whose husband, Paul Czinner, produced the show. It was the confidence Miss Bergner and Czinner had in Lee's ability to do the role that brought about his selection over a host of other possible candidates.

Revenge on the Stage

Rennie Mitchell, the actress now appearing in "Dear Ruth" at the National Theatre, was reminiscing over her experience in "Native Son," in which she played the role of Bigger Thomas's sweetheart.

Canada Lee, the star, for a gag used to pinch and kick her, trying to make her laugh while she was supposed to be lying dead after he had killed her in one of the dramatic moments of the show.

She studied many ways to get even.

One night to his surprise she suddenly wrapped her legs around him and held him, preventing him from dashing down toward the footlights where he was supposed to make his big speech of the show.

"Let me go," whispered Canada under his breath as the moments fled.

"I can't, I'm dead" whispered Rennie taking a tighter death grip on him. After a long stage wait which almost crabbed Canada's scene she relinquished her hold, but Canada never pinched her again.

Negro Actor Will Play White Character's Part

138

BOSTON, Sept. 23. (UP)—The first attempt of a Negro actor to portray a white character on the professional stage was delayed tonight when Canada Lee asked for more time to learn his lengthy part in "The Duchess of Malfi."

Lee, who has the longest part in the 17th century melodrama starring Elisabeth Bergner, will don white makeup for the portrayal. An understudy opened in the play tonight and Lee will take over at Wednesday's matinee at the Shubert theater.

The Negro actor said it was too big a thing for him and his race to jeopardize by a poor performance. He was hired for the part only last week and it was believed the first time in theatrical history a producer had selected the man he considered the best actor for a role regardless of color.

"I don't want to mess this up by a poor performance," he said. "It can open up vast new fields to the Negro actor whose parts previously have been limited by color. Most of the time Negroes are relegated to funny parts that make fun of a whole race.

"I hate that. I want to prove it is art that counts. I expect the biggest going-over ever when I open but I don't mind. This can open up all roads to the Negro actor if he has the ability."

Lee said the special white paste he had secured for his makeup was very effective.

"I'm anxious to see the faces of the audiences and hear their reactions when I appear in it. The makeup is good and I think I'll do a good job.

"I hope it will be a long step toward becoming actor Canada Lee, not Canada Lee, Negro actor."

LEE BOWS IN WHITE ROLE

The Times

Stage History Made by Negro Actor in Boston Theatre

New York, N.Y.

BOSTON, Sept. 25 (UP)—Canada Lee opened a new field to Negro actors today by donning white makeup and portraying a white character for the first time in the history of the American stage.

So effective was the makeup that it was difficult to tell that Mr. Lee was a Negro when he made his debut as the villainous Daniel de Bosola in the seventeenth century melodrama, "The Duchess of Malfi." *Thurs.*

Mr. Lee used a special white paste and a wig helped create the illusion that he was white. The paste, never before used in the theatre, has been applied medically to cover burns and disfiguring marks. *9-26-46*

Though the play opened Monday at the Shubert Theatre here, Mr. Lee, a former boxer, delayed his debut because he had not sufficient time to learn the lengthy part. It is all in blank verse. He said the opportunity was too big to jeopardize by a poor performance.

CANADA LEE SIGNS FOR ROLE IN FILM

The Times New York, N.Y.

Will Play Part of Fighter in 'The Burning Journey'—John Garfield Star of Movie

Wed. 12-25-46

By THOMAS F. BRADY

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Dec. 24—Canada Lee, Negro actor, who was last seen on Broadway in "The Duchess of Malfi" in white make-up, has been signed by Enterprise Productions to play a prize fighter in "The Burning Journey," with John Garfield, the studio announced today. Lee is scheduled to arrive in Hollywood on Jan. 3 and the picture will go before the cameras Jan. 6, with Robert Rosson directing.

"The Burning Journey" will be Lee's second motion picture. He appeared in "Lifeboat," an Alfred Hitchcock production for Twentieth Century-Fox, which was released early in 1944. *12-25-46*

Actors Spearhead Tolerance Fight, Says Canada Lee

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 11-30-46

NEW YORK — "The theatre breeds a different type of human being" from the ones the average American sees daily, said Canada Lee last week in revealing his actor's union was considering a measure "whereby an actor cannot appear in any theatre in these United States where Jim Crow—our national bird—prevails."

Addressing the New School for Social Research in New York, the famous actor of stage and screen asid, "In the theatre the average person you meet isn't full of our stupid American prejudices."

"There was a time," he added, "when actors and actresses were considered artists only, and as such stayed in their little ivory tower. . . . That behavior has changed to one of great concern . . . So they have come down . . . They have rolled up their sleeves, balled up their fists and have got into the melee swinging with both hands."

Lee, who is now playing the role of a white actor in one of the theatre triumphs of the year, "The Duchess of Malfi," conceded that there were a few artists "who don't fit into this description," but for the most part, he said, racial and religious bigotries are "non-existent."

Proud Of Heritage

Stressing that he is practically unaware of his race until he leaves the theatre and throws off the cloak of "make-believe," Lee said, "It is hard to take when one is as proud of his heritage as I am, when one knows that much of the basic culture that is recognized as American came from my Negro forefathers, and especially, when one knows that the first man to die for freedom and American independence on the Boston Commons was a Negro . . . a Negro named Crispus Attucks . . . And then to realize that in some parts of this America . . . that was created by slave labor, by the toil of Negroes in chains, a Negro isnt' even allowed to go into a theatre."

The fact that Negroes have bridged the gap from playing strictly "Negro" roles to the wider realm of serious "white" roles is prophetic, Lee said.

Noble Sissle Re-elected as NAGA Prexy

Afro American
Baltimore, Md
Sat 2-23-46

NEW YORK — Miss Abbie Mitchell, veteran Broadway actress and dramatic soprano, ex-wife of the late Will Marion Cook, songwriter and producer, was elected last week as honorary executive secretary of the Negro Actors' Guild of America, a post without salary. Noble Sissle was re-elected president.

Noble Sissle

Miss Mitchell will be honored by the executive board within the next few days on having made "the outstanding contribution to the dramatic and musical fields."

Miss Mitchell gained much of her stage experience in the musical comedies of her husband, and while in her teens studied voice under Harry T. Burleigh, who placed her under Mme. Emilia Serrano with whom she studied for four years.

Gave Up Musical Comedy

Ambitious for the concert stage, she retired from musical comedy to study theory and harmony under Melville Charlton. Later she went to Paris and studied there for two years under Jean de Reszke.

Sat 2-23-46

Turning to the dramatic stage, Miss Mitchell became one of the leading actresses of the Lafayette Players. She was seen in "Madame X," "Help Wanted," the Pulitzer Prize play "In Abraham's Bosom," and appeared as Marguerite in the opera "Faust."

She took time out from her acting to serve as voice instructor and assisted with dramatics at Tuskegee Institute for three years, and was technical advisor for the Cavalcade of the Negro" during the American Negro Exposition in Chicago.

O'Neal Heads Board

Frederick O'Neal was named chairman of the executive board and Miss Mabel A. Roane will continue with the administrative duties of the guild.

The group also re-elected Bill (Bojangles) Robinson, honorary president; Elmer A. Carter, chairman, executive board; W. C. Handy, treasurer, and Robert P. Braddicks, assistant treasurer.

Others named were: Harry G. Bragg, counsel; the Rev. John H. Johnson, chaplain; Fredi Washington, recording secretary; Fannie E. Robinson, chairman, entertainment committee; LeRoy Butler, memorial committee; Billy Butler, publicity; John S. Brown, historian; and Lena Roberts, chairman, sick committee.

66b 1946 Actors & Actresses (Etta Moten)

Race's First Screen Glamour Girl Gives Some Vital Points About Stage, Screen, Radio

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 6-15-46

66b

By BILLY ROWE, Theatrical Editor

NEW YORK—An exclusive interview with Etta Moten, star of stage, screen and radio, is somthing to write the home folks about, and despite the fact that in private life she is Mrs. Claude Barnet, you can't help but get that hubba hubba feeling. You see, even at 44 Miss Moten is one of the loveliest ladies of the theatre. Long before Lena Horne left Brooklyn to kick across the boards of the Cotton Club, Etta Moten was exciting male habitues of the theatre. She did it so well and with such consistency that Hollywood, despite the South, refused to ignore her beauty and talent.

Calling to her in 1933, Warner Brothers dropped the bars and gave her a glamour role in "Gold Diggers." Her role was something new as far as colored artists were concerned. She added a dash of excitement to the part which when mixed with her unusual talent, she emerged a star.

From '33 to '34 there were several other parts, but none gave her the wide latitude as did "Flying Down to Rio," produced in 1934 by RKO. Because of this picture Etta Moten became a household word, as famous then for her screen work as Lena Horne (or Lana Turner for that matter) is today.

GOES ON AIR

After Hollywood came radio work in San Francisco, where she was taken by Producer Lou Brock. Signed as a studio staff artist, she worked with Meridith Wilson for three months and built a new kind of national following.

Riding the wagon of supply and demand, she came East to fill important theatre and nite club engagements. Invited to South America, she accepted a four-months engagement and harried important entertainment fronts in Rio and Argentina. That was in 1936.

Since that time the theatre has changed greatly and the roads which Miss Moten first traveled have felt the talented feet of many artists. However, she seemingly has an unchangeable beauty and her talents are like rare wine and get better all the time.

During our confabulation it was discovered that maturity has given her a depth of feeling and a great understanding of humanity. Always the pioneer, she has lost none of that spirit today.

Well equipped after two and a half years in the title role of "Porgy and Bess," Miss Moten who is as much a concert artist as a star with the popular trend is set to embark on the most ambitious program of her career.

First to discover the college concert circuit back in 1937, her plans are to enlarge this outlet so as to establish a concrete proving ground for young artists who want and should be heard. "Such an outlet," she said, "will inspire those in college with classical ability to venture forth and thereby enhance the concert world. This college circuit is to be both white and colored and run all season. It will also be self-booked, cutting out the ten-per-cent man so as to better help the young artists better help themselves.

When the discussion got around to the screen, a sudden light popped into two pretty eyes, which have already seen the glory in the world of incadescent glare. This we could see was still a favorite subject to her though she had long since been claimed by the concert world.

"Hollywood should not let the South dictate its policy. Entertainment like freedom, is the right of all the people, not a narrow few. The kind of entertainment the screen offers is about life, produced by live people who have no business clinging to a dead past."

"We, too, have our faults in this phase of the profession. Ours should be more criticism on the positive side. We must stop crying what we don't want and demonstrate what we do want. We have got to stop being so sensitive about color, hair and the like. There are plenty of beautiful black people and plenty of them have achieved things we should forever be proud of."

ASK FOR MORE

"Let's not ask Hollywood to take away what we have got, but add to it. Give our artists more variety, set them in as a part of the great American scene, for though some of our forefathers were slaves, all of us are today free people marching on and upwards with the other races of the world in the great attempt to establish a better world for all people to live in.

"Hollywood has a big job in the waking up of democracy and it can't do that if it continues to let lie dormant the histronic talent of the race. We can't make it realize that mistake if we continue in a free-for-all manner with those who know nothing about it trying to take the bull by the horns. They should leave it to the actors whose living it is and the one person who can do something about it with the help of the people who answers the call of the box-office."

Yes, Etta Moten Barnet is an amazing woman. At 44 she has three daughters, 22, 23, 24; two of whom are married. Of her they say, "When you get to forty you know all the answers and can afford to give them." About their mother, they're right.

Hilda Simms to Divorce Husband

CHICAGO—A report that Hilda Simms, star of "Anna Lucasta," would take up residence in Reno, following the close of the play now at the Civic Theatre, was verified Monday by her husband, William (Bill) Simms.

Mrs. Simms, contacted at her hotel, declined to comment on the report, but referred an AFRO newsman to her husband, stating that he would answer. When reached, Mr. Simms told the AFRO: "Our difficulty is due to differences in careers and not having the opportunity to become fully adjusted following my military service. She is a wonderful person and I hope we can still make it."

Mrs. Simms

The couple was married Aug. 15, 1941, at Minneapolis, Minn. There are no children. Mr. Simms is a member of the Council of Race Relations.

'Midnight Matinee' In Harlem for Actors

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

The American Negro Theatre thinks hard-working Broadway actors deserve a chance to see other people's shows once in a while. Accordingly, ANT is giving a special "midnight matinee" performance of its new production On Strivers' Row, at 11:45 p.m., this Sunday evening (Feb. 17) at ANT playhouse, 15 W. 126 St. This will be a special prevue, as the play does not open officially until Thursday, Feb. 28, at a less robust hour (8:45 p.m.). *2-16-46*

On Strivers' Row, a comedy by Abe Hill, has a large cast of 18, with a special musical score by Frank Fields. In their large new playhouse, ANT actors will have plenty of room to put on a big, lusty show.

GI Read of "Anna Lucasta" on Stilwell Highway; Now He's Full-Fledged Actor

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK (ANP) — When Evelio Grillo was a GI in India, a member of the 823rd Engineering Aviation Bn., at work on the Stilwell Highway, he came across a much-worn New York newspaper.

In it was a story about the American Negro Theatre and the success it was enjoying with a play called "Anna Lucasta," produced against all odds. Then and there young Grillo decided to go to New York at once after his Army release and join the ANT. Nothing could stop him.

Nothing did, except a long wait for that Army release. When it finally came, he headed directly for Harlem and joined the ANT as a student actor. That was last October. He got a leading role in ANT's play "Home Is the Hunter," which closed Saturday night after eighteen performances.

Although Evelio is only 26 years old, in the play he was so convincingly aged as a 60-year-old liberal industrialist that audiences thought him an "old character actor."

Notices Outranked the Play

He brought to his role the fussiness, bone-creakings, and old-fashioned humor of a gentleman along in years who has trouble keeping up with the younger generation. He was so good that he got better notices than the play itself. *2-2-46*

His personal success in his New York debut cheered up Evelio considerably after being away from acting four years while in the Army. Born in Tampa, Fla., son of a cigar-maker, he made his first appearance at six in a school play.

At St. Francis Xavier College in New Orleans, he was the one youngster who could be depended on to make believable the difficult character roles of Macbeth, Pontius Pilate, and other meaty parts entrusted him.

Upon graduation from Xavier, Grillo went to Howard University, Washington, to study languages for his master's degree. Of course one of the first things he did there was to join the acting group. But he was drafted in July, 1941, and that ended that.

Produced Variety Shows

Evelio spent most of his Army years overseas in the China-Burma-India theater. Besides doing his bit in helping build the Stilwell Highway, he served as GI-correspondent for the Associated Negro Press, writing human interest stories about his buddies, and as a special service worker arranging variety shows.

Now he's resumed a promising career in New York, and he's grateful to the chance the American Negro Theatre gave him right off—an unknown.

"The people at ANT make New York seem a friendly city," he says. "It's a breath of fresh air to service men like me who want to get a real start in the theatre. I'll never regret coming all the way from India for this big opportunity."

P.M. New York N.Y. Wed 2-27-46

DOROTHY CARTER, remembered as Bess in the recent *Strange Fruit*, will be in *On Strivers' Row*, Abram Hill's satiric comedy about Harlem middle-class society, which the American Negro Theater will present Thursday evening at the ANT Playhouse, 15 W. 126th St. Miss Carter will portray a social leader who becomes disillusioned with her way of life.

Photo by Ray Platnick, PM

Ex-Defender Scribe Travels 800 Miles To Make Curtain

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

When Harlem's American Negro Theatre began rehearsals for the holiday opening of its new play, "Home is the Hunter," Director Abram Hill (who first staged Anna Lucasta) thought he had a "natural" cast for the show. But as rehearsals went on, perfectionist Hill saw room for improvement in one of the leading roles. With 182 actors to choose from, it looked like a simple job of switching characters, but Abe Hill had a special man in mind—the trouble was that the man was 800 miles away, sweating out an army release.

On a long chance, Hill put in a long distance phone call, learned that his man—Maxwell Glanville—was due for a furlough, and asked him if he'd like to spend it in New York, acting. Glanville agreed, caught the first train out of Illinois, and arrived in town a couple day later.

It was his second long journey to a big opportunity. His first occurred when he was just a year old.

An Old Trick

"That," he says, "was when my parents brought me to this country from Antigua, British West Indies. I think my mother had hopes of a writing career for me, but she shouldn't have moved so close to Broadway. She was a school teacher, and did some writing herself. One day when I was about 15 years old, I walked into her room while she was working on a poem. She challenged me to do one, and I've been writing verse ever since."

His juvenile efforts led to a job on the "Chicago Defender," and

MAXWELL GRANVILLE

finally a staff writing job on the Army Air Corps official sheet "Wings." *Sat 1-19-46*

But the theatre was his first love. In 1941, while working in an amateur production, he was invited to a play at the American Negro Theatre. Glanville was so impressed by the smooth professional approach of the group that he asked for a chance to join it. He was given a try-out and passed with honors.

His performance in such ANT plays as "On Strivers' Row," "Starlight," and "Natural Man" was sufficiently impressive to stick in director Hills memory two and one-half years after Glanville's induction into the army.

In "Home Is the Hunter," Glanville puts his husky frame into the character of a labor union leader, and plays it with a maturity beyond his 28 years. The critics liked his performance much better than the play itself, and didn't hesitate to say so.

"Its' a role I can really put my heart into," he says. "And the fact that I'm playing opposite Clarice Taylor helps—she's the girl I'm going to marry in real life."

American Negro Theatre Has a 20-Year Plan

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Thurs 4-25-46

By DAVID PLATT

The American Negro Theatre has a 20-year plan, Abram Hill, ANT Director told the Daily Worker during an interview at his office in Harlem. The eight original founders of the organization have come to the conclusion that it will take that long to really build a National Negro Theatre.

Five and a half of those years have already gone by and the ANT is moving toward that goal. Today, there are approximately 100 ANT actives with the group, including 10 percent non-Negro members.

The ANT has set itself tremendous tasks. They are trying to get a new building. Their present quarters are cramped. They do not have adequate space for rehearsals. They are looking for a building where they can have training and production space and dormitories for people who want to devote themselves full time to this work. They want to be in position to underwrite the maintenance and welfare of their personnel. In a couple of years they expect to have sufficient funds to realize this dream.

NO DESIRE TO GO BELOW 110TH ST.

The ANT, Hill said, is now entering a new phase. "We seek to perfect the technical basis of our work, develop playwrights, set designers, actors and directors and establish a repertory theatre—a community theatre. We have no desire to establish the ANT below 110th St., despite rumors to the contrary. We seek to break down the apathy of the Negro as a theatregoer and convince everyone that our purpose is to create a people's theatre which will provide significant comment and criticism of the everyday life around us."

The ANT, Hill stressed, "rejects the stereotyped and distorted patterns of Negro life. We are not interested in material that's geared to the Broadway stage." The Negro theatre's next production, set for June, will be **Nat Turner**, by **Paul** Peters, about the great Negro slave, who led the rebellion in Virginia in 1831. One of the new plays under

consideration is about Sojourner Truth. The ANT would also like to do a musical—something off the beaten path. Langston Hughes is busy on an idea for this.

At the same time the ANT looks toward a National Negro Theatre movement that will exchange personnel, scripts, ideas, hold national conferences, and award prizes for the best productions, etc.

To achieve all these goals requires a rigid policy of self-discipline, Hill said.

Thurs 4-25-46

"This means that each member and officer of ANT is required to be prompt, cooperative and accept assignments from scrubbing floors to building scenery. It takes three years for students to develop any kind of basic technique in acting. This calls for classes 24 weeks out of the year, participa-

ABRAM HILL

tion in the annual student production, work in the three plays staged by the ANT each season, organizational assignments; also work on the ANT radio program on Station WNEW every Sunday. As you see such a program requires discipline. Without it the ANT would never be able to hold its members."

Hill and the ANT executive committee feel that Harry Granick and Theodore Ward gave a distorted picture of how the ANT works in a recent letter, published in the Daily Worker. The two playwrights said the ANT prevents its members from appearing with any other non-professional group, accused the Negro Theatre of undemocratic procedures.

The ANT, Hill told the Daily Worker, is democratic in the fullest sense of the word. "But we are trying to build a permanent acting company. To achieve this goal means that we must hold our members together. The ANT Constitution provides this protection."

Despite these rulings, Hill said the ANT has supplied actors for more than a dozen professional shows since its inception, and players have been loaned to non-professional groups such as Stage for Action, Blackfriars' Guild, the Dramatic Workshop, several summer theatres and universities, etc.

"The ANT has evolved what we believe is a workable policy for bringing about the long desired Negro Theatre. Our plans are far from perfect. Nevertheless, public response to our years of struggle, sacrifice, trial and error indicates that we are headed in the right direction."

Escapes Death, Now Stage Star

Memphis World

NEW YORK—(ANP)— Javotte Sutton, young and charming, looks as if she never had a trouble in the world as she appears before New York audiences these nights in the comedy "On Strivers' Row," at the American Negro theatre.

Yet a few months ago she was in a New York hospital, seriously injured after a bus hit her while she was on the job as toll collector on a local bridge. One of her legs was hurt so badly she thought she would never walk again. She was blind six weeks.

Fri 3-8-46

All this didn't put Javotte on a permanent shelf, because she was determined to win out in her battle to make something of herself.

Up to that time she had made a pretty good record. A native of Wilson, N. C., she was an honor student at North Carolina college, in Durham, and at Columbia University in New York.

LED ACTIVE LIFE

In her spare time she won a reputation for herself as vocalist with Cass Carr's orchestra, under the name of Verna Waldez. She was also the first colored girl to act as soloist with St. Paul's Varsity choir at Columbia.

Another job she tackled was to become a cashier at a large Fifth avenue department store in New York—the first colored girl employed in that capacity. Since then, others have been hired, and have made out just as well as Javotte.

But all these activities came to an end for a long time after her accident. During the long painful months of recuperation, Javotte planned her future—even though at times she wasn't sure she had a future. When she got well, she decided, she would study hard for the theatre.

On the American Negro Theater

Daily Worker New York

Sat. 3-2-46 N.Y.

Dear Editor:

Progressives cheered the advent of the American Negro Theatre, supported it with their dollars and active good-will, and hope for its evolving success. We must, therefore, be concerned in the policy aspect of the foollwing incident:

Eight weeks ago, the 92d St. YMHA undertook the production of my play, **Reveille Is Always**, for the week of March 23. Many producers have expressed great interest in the play both for its quality of writing and its strong anti-racist theme, though this latter element has also caused them to shy from it. We anticipated some trouble in casting the white roles. But the play has two Negro characters, both of them important, and to fill these we thought we had only to ask for the cooperation of the ANT which in the past has always been able to borrow actors wherever it has found them. One of the parts is that of the warm, dignified housekeeper of a Columbia scientist; the other is that of her son, a wounded vet who is taking a course in engineering while assisting the professor.

In the period of the first two weeks, our casting call was answered by half a dozen ANT actors. They were all impressed with the play and with the two parts and each of them expressed a desire to play with us. However, much to our astonishment, we never saw any of them again, nor even had an explanatory phone call. We could not understand this. For some weeks, no one else came from the ANT, and then, in the seventh week, a very good actress from that theatre turned up to read her part. We were most happy to see her at the following rehearsal. But now we learned that she could not play with us. The top leadership of the ANT had promulgated a rule that none of its members would be permitted to play in any other than an ANT production. Now we were clear as to why we had been unable to cast our anti-racist play.

IRON RULE PREVAILED

But the play had to go on. We could not find Negro actors outside the great reservoir Abram Hill and his colleagues had created. I therefore called Mr. Hill several times and finally spoke to Leslie Jones, in charge of play reading. Mr. Jones told me that he knew about the play, considered it important, and had discussed the matter with our actress, but that, unfortunately, there was this iron rule. I could not get to speak to Mr. Hill.

Finally, my agent, who knows Mr. Hill from Federal Theatre days, phoned him. He was most cordial, said he would take her word for the nature of the play, and earnestly promised that he would instruct the actress to play the role. When the director of the play called him next morning to confirm this, she was informed by his secretary that the actress was no longer a member of the ANT and was therefore free to do as she wished. The actress herself did not know of her suspension until that afternoon. She has set out to fight it and she has with her sympathy of most of her fellow-members who consider Mr. Hill's administration autocratic and, at least in this policy, inimical to their best interest.

Sat. 3-2-46

RUBY DEE DROPPED FOR PLAYING IN "JEB"

What shall we say of Mr. Hill's monopolistic attitude toward Negro acting talent? We have since learned that a male actor appearing in one of the Library Equity shows was thereupon suspended, and that Ruby Dee was dropped for accepting a part in JEB. Is this good for the Negro actor, for the Negro theatre, or for progressive theatre as a whole? Or does it limit severely the experience of all these? How can any play requiring Negro actors be shown in an off-Broadway production if Mr. Hill persists in his error?

Theodore Ward, the noted playwright, is signing this letter with me because, knowing the play, he has followed its casting troubles and is as much incensed and troubled by the facts and more especially by their implication to the welfare of all social theatre. We believe progressives have a right and a duty to ask the ANT to reconsider its policies, to democratize its procedures and to demonstrate a more healthy awareness of the great role it has assumed.

HARRY GRANICK,
THEODORE WARD.

Anna' Gets New Lead; Hilda Set for 'Juliet'

Afro-American

CHICAGO—(ANP) — A new leading lady is playing the title role of "Anna Lucasta," the hit play now in its 10th month at the Civic Theatre here. She is Janice Kingslow, the 19-year-old understudy to Hilda Simms, who stepped into the role when the former lead returned to New York to begin rehearsals for a mixed cast version of "Romeo and Juliet."

Sat. 6-15-46

The new "Anna," a Chicago girl, was discovered during staging last fall of the Artists and Models' ball, an affair held annually to benefit the Southside Community Art Center. Miss Kingslow, who was attending the Chicago Teachers' College when her acting talents were noted by a "Lucasta" scout became Miss Simms' understudy last October.

Baltimore

Considered a perfect "find" for the part, Miss Kingslow makes a vibrant and magnetic Anna. An excellent portrayal of the role on her opening night reflected the training she has had both as an amateur actress and as understudy to Miss Simms.

The daughter of a Chicago librarian, Miss Kingslow lived in Evanston until five years ago. Since coming to Chicago, she has been active in her sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, and in little theatre groups.

Hernandez Now In Lucasta

Amsterdam, News N.Y. N.Y.

Juano Hernandez, who earlier this season scored a hit as the physician in "Strange Fruit", has joined the New York cast of "Anna Lucasta". He plays the role of Frank, the heavy, having replaced Warren Coleman. The latter is off on a two weeks' vacation on his estate in Martha's Vineyard, Mass., before joining the Chicago company of "Anna."

Rosetta Le Noire returned from Chicago to the New York company of "Anna Lucasta" this week, resuming the role of Stella, the sister of Anna, a role she created at the Mansfield. She replaced Inge Hardison who is off to strut in the Windy City troupe.

Sat 6-1-46

When members of the New York and Chicago companies of "Anna Lucasta" participated in the "Quiz Of Two Cities" broadcast last Sunday, producer John Wildberg was asked: "What single acquisition of territory practically doubled the size of the United States?" He replied: "Texas." "Sorry", said the show's inquisitor, "the answer is Louisiana Purchase." To which the irrepressible Mr. Wildberg shot back: "Louisiana Purchase, eh? No wonder I muffed it. I didn't produce it."

If any husbands on the lam are interested, producer John Wildberg of "Anna Lucasta" is still President of the National Desertion Bureau, specializing in retrieving spouses who have abandoned their wives and families. Nice work, if you can get it.

When asked on the "Quiz of Two Cities" program the other day, the distance between Miami and Denver, Hilda Simms, who created the title role in "Anna Lucasta," replied: "30,000 miles." The radio audience was stunned and the studio audience collapsed. Hilda must have been off in space with her answer. The distance around the Earth at the equator is only 26,000 miles.

American Negro Theatre to Hold Auditions

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Sat. 9-28-46

The American Negro Theatre will hold final auditions for new applicants for membership into its apprentice student group. Each applicant is given five minutes on the stage to demonstrate his talent. No experience is necessary. Those who successfully pass their auditions are eligible to enroll in classes conducted by the ANT teaching staff. Last season eighty apprentices enrolled and fifty-six successfully passed a year's training. Sixteen of whom made the professional stage and appeared in one or more Broadway plays.

An Evaluation of the American Negro Theatre

The Worker

By John Hudson Jones *8-25-46*

The American Negro Theater's summer series of plays should be considered in the light of their stated plans and perspectives—not to pass pontifical judgment, but to examine them for faults and qualities that can and should be the basis for further development.

The series included **Juno and the Paycock**, by Sean O'Casey; **Angel Street**, by Patrick Hamilton; and **You Can't Take It With You**, by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman.

This was truly a diversified program. A bitter drama of Irish life; a psychological thriller in a 19th century English setting; and a zany comedy of American life with slick social overtones pasted on.

A GOOD CHOICE *Sunday*

The selection of O'Casey's play was a wise one and adhered to the statement of policy made by ANT director Abram Hill before the 1945 Conference of the Arts, Sciences and Professions.

"The overall purpose of the American Negro Theater is to revolutionize Negro participation in the theater—to project men and women on the stage as men and women rather than as exotic distortions. In following such a course, experiments of all kinds are being used. Eventually we will evolve a technique of our own which derives from a basic and honest quality inherent in our race. In doing so we will, as we have in the past, enlist the participation of all races. This results in a remarkable cultural exchange and makes for the creation of an integrated theater—a people's theater." *8-25-46*

A GLARING ERROR

Directed by Charles Sebree, **Juno and the Paycock** was by far the best of the three. Several of the characters approached three dimensional credibility, but for the most part there seemed to be a lack of a thoroughgoing feeling for the various nuances, idioms and flavors of Irish life.

The importance of this production over and above its technical faults, lay in the actors re-creation of the crushing misery suffered by the Irish people—a phenomenon not exactly foreign to the Negro people. Charles Coleman's "Jack Boyle," Audrey Beatrize's "Juno" and Harold Belfonte's "Johnny Boyle" came through almost in the strength, weakness, and frustration drawn by O'Casey. Howard Augusta's "Joxer Daley" just missed being on the slapstick level. *Sun.*

Al in all, this production indicated ANT potentialities in the direction of becoming "a people's theater." It also pointed to the back-breaking work necessary on the part of the actors and directors,

Abram Hill, Director American Negro Theatre.

New York, N.Y.

to fuse social and artistic values together as a basic approach to good theater.

TWO STEPS BACKWARD

The selection of **Angel Street** and **You Can't Take It With You** did nothing to move the ANT in the direction of a "people's theater." If anything it was two steps backward.

In **Angel Street**, both the acting and direction failed to remotely approach the tense mood necessary to delineate the psychotic razzle-dazzle piled on the author. Estelle Evans' "Mrs. Manningham" came closest to being a competent acting job, while Hilda Haynes' "Nancy" almost became a saucy, arrogant maid. On the whole, the production made no sense.

The circus-type stage was used for **You Can't Take It With You.** The audience were seated on all four sides of the action, which was the center of what ordinarily is the seating section of the ANT at 15 W. 126 St.

This ridiculous comedy, while providing many a good belly laugh, could just as well have been let alone.

While glorifying bohemianism as the solution to man's ills, it got in a few vicious digs at the Soviet Union that "a people's theater," certainly a Negro people's theater should avoid.

Here again the dialect problem cropped up, this time it was Russian. Sidney Poitier's "Boris Kolenkhov" was marred by his obvious struggle to talk like a Russian speaking English. Ellyce Weir's "Princess Olga" also forgot she was Russian. *New York, N.Y.*

PROBLEMS FACING ANT

What is the quarrel? Should a theatre company be restricted to certain material? Should a "people's theater" do only serious or social content plays? Should a Negro company limit itself to dramas of Negro life? *Sun.*

These are problems probably being grappled with by ANT, but this much can be said with finality: **Broadway corn and slush will hurt** any theatre. Young actors should **not be saddled with the burden of** wading through it at the **expense** of stunting their growth. **This stuff** is turned out for **money-grubbing** purposes. **What place does it have** in a serious theater?

Whether or not the summer series was the beginning of an overall policy remains to be seen. **Excepting the O'Casey play, it would be disastrous to ANT. They are a group of hard-working artists and should not have their talents wasted** on trash. **Especially when so many good plays have been** written.

Plans of Negro Theatre

The Times New York, N.Y. 10-10-46

The American Negro Theatre announces it has selected "The Peacemaker," by Kurt Unkelbach, as its opening production of the season. The play, a farce-fantasy dealing with the much talked of subject of the day, the making of peace, is scheduled for an early November presentation at the theatre's playhouse, 15 West 126th Street. Marjorie Hildreth, a member of the producing firm of Contemporary Theatre Associates and connected for three years with the Pasadena Playhouse, will direct. The cast will be headed by Frederick O'Neal of "Anna Lucasta" fame, Elwood Smith, Hilda Haynes, Stanley Greene, Kenneth Manigault and Fred Carter. *Thurs.*

Negro Theatre Does Well By Sean O'Casey Play

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed 7-10-46

By M. Vicker

It is not surprising that Sean O'Casey's bitter human drama of Irish life after the bloody regime of the black-and-tans, **Juno and the Paycock**, is treated by the American theater like a story of suffering countrymen.

The bleakness and misery, the strength and faltering induced by oppression might have been passed on by some universal genes of common suffering, their outcroppings in enslaved nations are so similar.

Sean O'Casey's "Juno and the Paycock" presented by the American Negro Theatre at 15 W. 126 St., N.Y.C. through July 13.

Charles Coleman's "Captain" Jack Boyle blusters heroically through the performance, dodges any form of labor with marvellously timed pains in his legs, spends a legacy he knows that he won't get, and completely wilts in drink-soaked degeneracy when life punctures his balloon of self-told lies. No one doubts "Captain" Jack's complete defeat by history's lash in the form of British rule.

Juno, his wife, played admirably by Audrey Beatrize, battles unyieldingly to preserve and safeguard her family. Her struggle blinds her to the misery of one of her neighbors until through the loss of her own son and the seduction of her daughter she learns a common grief and a common sympathy.

Johnny Boyle, the son, Harold Belfonte, pursues his crippled acrid hysterical nervousness, until he breaks down as Irish Republican vengeance for the betrayal of a former comrade catches up with him.

Charlie Bentham's suave cultured approach to swindle and seduction is done just enough by Frank Waite-Smith. Joxy, "Captain" Jack's barroom crony, portrayed by Howard Augusta, and the barbed-tongued neighbor, Mrs. Madigan, played by Clarice Taylor, both are credible.

The luckless love of Socialist Jerry Devine, John De Battle, and honest unwary Mary Boyle, Chickie Evans, ends with Mary and her mother going off so Mary's child can be borne with some degree of respectability.

Mel Bolden, Blanche Christopher, Lew Smith, Millard Thomas, Maurice Thompson, Betty Haynes and Evans Allegra are included in the cast. The production, generally, was well presented.

66b 1946 General

Brooks Atkinson and The Critics of Propaganda

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Wed. 10-9-46

By Samuel Sillen

(Part of a talk delivered at Monday night's Stage for Action Forum on "The Negro in the American Theater.")

WITH a new play by Eugene O'Neill opening on Broadway this week, it is appropriate to recall the stir created by Mr. O'Neill's **All God's Chillun Got Wings** when that play opened at the Provincetown Playhouse in 1924. **All God's Chillun**, dealing critically with Negro-white relationships in America, provoked the wrath of the more virtuous sections of our free press. Hearst's **American**, for instance, carried an editorial which declared: "It is hard to imagine a more nauseating and inflammable situation, and in many communities the failure of the audience to scrap the play and mutilate the players would be regarded as a token of public anemia."

Much has changed since 1924, even if Hearst has not. The drama critics, in approaching plays like **Deep Are the Roots**, **Jeb**, or **On Whitman Avenue**, do not call on the audience to "scrap the play" and "mutilate the players." We have made a certain progress in refinement. We damn with faint praise and murder with protestations of good will.

Confronted by an honest play on a social theme—and specifically the Negro theme—your newspaper guide reacts as automatically as Pavlov's conditioned dog. He sits down to his typewriter and begins:

"Please don't get me wrong. I am a very sensitive fellow; I think Bilbo is a wretch (though I will defend unto my death his right to sit in the Senate); some of my best friends are underprivileged, but I am not a Communist, believe me. I firmly believe that with the right kind of education we may reasonably look forward to the abolition of racial intolerance within 200 years, if human nature can be changed. Therefore I deeply appreciate the playwright's generous intentions. For that reason I regret to report that he has chosen to write propaganda. He does not appear to understand that the theater is not a classroom but a shrine of exaltation and enchantment—witness **Harvey**."

There are variations on this patter, but they all add up to the same total—killing with kindness, a sort of benevolent mayhem.

I should like to affirm my agreement on three propositions:

(1) The theater is not a classroom, it is a theater; and a person may be a fascinating lecturer on political economy and a tedious butcher as a playwright.

(2) The seriousness of the Negro theme thrusts upon the playwright special responsibilities of intellectual maturity and craft mastery.

(3) The purposes of a good cause are ill-served by shoddy art.

But I submit that the issue is more fundamental than these propositions suggest. The issue is whether it is desirable or even possible to write about the real life of the Negro in America without partisanship, without a passionate sense of purpose, without a burning desire either to perpetuate or radically change the status quo.

The Negro theme may be and indeed should be treated with artistic objectivity; that is, with rigorous adherence to the truth of American life. But the Negro theme should not and indeed cannot be treated with artistic neutrality; that is, with indifference to the impact on the social attitudes and behavior of the audience.

Every serious play about Negro life in America is bound to be a "propaganda" play; it is bound to express basic values, and it is bound to affect basic values. Nobody has ordered this to be so, or merely wished it to be so. It is inherent in the drama because it is inherent in social reality.

The question is not whether the playwright should write propaganda. The fact is that he does, whenever he deals with issues that touch the core of our lives and our society. The question is: Propaganda for what end?

It is a notorious fact that the drama critic never sees propaganda in plays that accept and therefore propagate the dominant values of capitalist society. He sees propaganda only at the point where these values are seriously challenged. A play today glorifying the war ambitions of the imperialists and atom bomb diplomats would not be denounced as propaganda. A play that exposed and resisted these ambitions, a genuine peace play, would immediately be impaled on that terrifying word.

This is all carefully wrapped up of course in an unyielding devotion to "pure" art. In fact, the most influential critics make quite a fetish of "not influencing" people. I call your attention to a column by Brooks Atkinson in yesterday's **New York Times**. Mr. Atkinson says that it is "nearly impossible . . . for Soviet and Western writers to understand each other." (It should be noted parenthetically that Mr. Atkinson assumes the burden of speaking for all so-called "Western" writers.) He illustrates with a conversation between himself and a Soviet writer.

The **Times** critic said that "I was not a member of any political party or group because I did not want to subordinate my independence as a writer to causes or political attitudes." "But you should," the Soviet writer is reported as replying. "You are wrong. As a writer you can influence a great many people."

Mr. Atkinson says he was "taken aback" by this "non-Western" attitude. He replied: "I am not interested in influencing people. That is only a by-product of writing."

Whether or not Mr. Atkinson is interested in influencing people, the fact is that he writes for a newspaper whose average Sunday sale last year was 602,509. Moreover, for a man not interested in influencing people Mr. Atkinson shows a certain fervor in following the line of his editors, who I daresay are interested in influencing people.

What is of immediate concern, however, is the premise of Mr. Atkinson's approach to the theater.

He considers writers who set out to influence people as a bizarre, "Oriental" tribe. He cannot fathom their mentality. It should be noted that this frame of mind does not separate Brooks Atkinson from the Soviet writer alone. It separates him as well from the greatest dramatists of the modern stage: Ibsen, Chekhov, Gorky, Shaw, Sean O'Casey.

These writers have all been quite definitely and rather unabashedly interested in "influencing" people. Each of these playwrights was roundly abused by Mr. Atkinson's predecessors in the critical trade. They were denounced as "propagandists"—that is, as people who could not stomach the existing order and employed the theater as a means of challenging that order. They sought to make people aware of the injustices and banalities of the life around them; they sought to create new values; they sought to change people's outlook on life.

Meet Prejudice Head-On

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By Samuel Sillen

(Concluded from Yesterday)

FROM Aristophanes and Aeschylus to the present day, the great tradition of the drama has been the tradition of ideas and purpose. And this is equally true of poetry and the novel. Heinrich Heine asked that he be buried not with a wreath but a sword, to signify that he had taken his place in the liberation army of mankind. Balzac quoted these words: "The writer must have definite views on morals and on politics, he must look upon himself as an educator." And he added: "I early took these words, which constitute a law for the monarchistic as well as the democratic writer, as my rule."

Thurs. 10-10-46

The idea of social responsibility and purpose inspires our American literary tradition from Freneau and Paine, through Whitman and Whittier, to Jack London and Theodore Dreiser. Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote:

"The scholar or critic defending the cause of slavery, of arbitrary government, of monopoly, of the oppressor is a traitor to his profession. He is not company for clean people. It is not enough that the work should show a skillful hand, ingenious contrivance and admirable polish and finish; it should have a commanding motive in the time and condition in which it was made. There is always the previous question: 'How came you on that side? You are a very elegant writer, but you can't write up what gravitates down.'"

"A commanding motive in the time and condition in which it was made"—surely Emerson was not betraying the cause of art when he insisted on this qualification.

I repeat that Mr. Atkinson's alleged non-partisanship does not entitle him to speak for "Western writers," but on the contrary, places him in direct conflict with the great tradition of the modern stage.

And I would emphasize that the playwright who deals honestly and intelligently with the truth of Negro-white relationships in America must not yield to the critics who are prepared to shout "propaganda" at him. To be sure, the playwright must see to it that he is a competent playwright; his people must live; he must, as Gorky emphasized, show "human beings with all their psychological complexity, confused and contradictory as its elements are in the society of our day"; he must not substitute speech-making for convincing dramatic action; he must give us not the bare bones of drama, but its richness and excitement.

At the same time, the playwright must fight the tendency to **appeasement** that is bound to rise in him as he thinks of the critic—and by all means let us add the producer. Let there be no self-deception. There is no master strategy for circumventing prejudice. It must be met head-on. To the extent that a drama makes concessions to the horrible reality of Jimcrow and the ugly myth of "white supremacy," that drama will suffer in its moral fibre.

We must continue to fight for honest plays on Broadway; we must by all means fight to extend the gains that have been made in the past few seasons with respect to the Negro theme and the Negro artist. But we cannot rely either on Broadway or its newspaper critics. We must develop the existing independent theatres, such as the American Negro Theatre and Stage for Action. And we must create new independent theatre forms. We have a grave responsibility to see to it that the so-called "anti-propagandists" do not succeed in barring truth from the American theatre.

Newsweek

New York, N.Y. Mon. 12-2-46

Acme

La Lynchette: *Heléna Bossis, long-legged French actress, relaxes with a smoke from her lead role in Jean-Paul Sartre's new play "La Putain Respectueuse" (The Respectful Prostitute). Parisian authorities, who banned brothels a month ago, would like to suppress the drama, which deals with a lynching in the American South.*

Americans In Paris Howl Over Play Condemning Lynchings In The U.S.

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 11-30-46

PARIS—"La Putaine Respectueuse," the play by Jean Paul Sartra, hero of French intellectuals, opened this week amid the loudest howls any play has ever encountered at a premiere.

The play, excellently staged and finely written, deals with lynching in the American Southern states and here is where the squawking comes in.

A bunch of American tourists and soldiers, mostly of the South, and headed by Fredric Dupont, member of Paris Municipal Council, have filed an injunction suit to halt the play. They argue (without support from theatre-goers) that not only is the play "anti-American" but that its title which in English means "The Accommodating Prostitute." is a disgrace to the profession and the theatre.

Sartre, who recently returned from a visit to the United States, was accused by Dupont of presenting "a major defamation against the great American democracy to which Paris owes so much for the part it took in liberating France." Sartre replied to the anti-American charges with an open letter, in which he wrote:

"While in America I was very much attracted when I was there by various men and ideas and above all by a deep devotion to freedom and human dignity. If in the name of this freedom I decide it my duty to say how I feel about some aspects of this world of yours which I didn't like quite so much, this doesn't imply in any way that I'm against the whole of this world.

"The duty of a writer and his special mission toward the public is to denounce injustice wherever it's to be found and this all the more when he loves the country which allows this injustice to be committed." 11-30-46

The play which has been shocking theatre-goers for a week tells of a prostitute who frames a Negro for rape and then repents, but too late to save him from lynching.

66b 1946

General

Stage Plays About Negroes Not 'Quite Fair' to Whites

the Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.
3-3-46

By BOYD MARTIN, Courier-Journal Drama Editor

NEW YORK, March 2.—While there are not as many solid hits on the New York stage this season as last, there are enough holdovers, coupled with the new shows, to make theater-going on this very hectic island most exciting.

Judging by "Anna Lucasta," "Deep Are the Roots" and "Jeb," the producing fraternity is especially conscious this season of the Negro and his place in American society. Some quarters seem to think most of these plays are propaganda in nature; and, while "Deep Are the Roots" and "Jeb" have a distinct flavor of social significance, there is nothing of a propaganda nature in "Anna Lucasta," which I think is one of the most exciting plays now running on the New York stage.

Problem Apparently Magnified

In "Deep Are the Roots," written by the two young men who gave us "Tomorrow the World," the thrilling anti-Nazi play, the cards are pretty well stacked against the former Southern senators, so he becomes a deep-dyed villain and hardly the Southern aristocrat the authors claim he is supposed to be. Consequently, I look upon the play as a much misguided idea, which doesn't help solve a problem which seems to exist more in the minds of agitators than actually.

"Jeb" also is a drama of eloquence and some indignation, and its story is almost a direct parallel to the one presented in "Deep Are the Roots." A play about the intolerance of bigoted whites in a town in the deep South, "Jeb" becomes more of a one-sided argument showing the whites to be much meaner toward the Negro than I have found them. 3-3-46

In other words, I don't believe authors and producers have been quite fair to the white man in trying to build up an argument for the Negro; and in consequence, there is a sound argument for considering "Jeb" and "Deep Are the Roots" propaganda plays.

'Jeb' Closing Thursday

While "Deep Are the Roots" is pretty well established as a hit of this season, and is going strong from the box-office point of view, "Jeb" is closing Thursday night of next week after a mere nine performances.

That playgoers who visit the New York theater have no objection to theme or color as long as the play is exciting enough to arouse their curiosity and hold it, is attested by the longevity of "Anna Lucasta," a play which up to last night had played 641 performances in the 20-year-old Mansfield Theater. This theater opened with "The Green Pastures," another play about Negroes, but chiefly about their religious interpretation of the Bible. The play was so popular it was made into a movie.

Tragedy, Comedy Combined

"Anna Lucasta," far from being propaganda, shows the life of one Negro family in general and the story in particular of Anna, high-spirited daughter of the clan, who strayed not alone from the Lucasta fireside, but from the paths of rectitude. 3-3-46

"Anna Lucasta" has been marvelously directed by Harry Wagstaff Gribble, who visited us several seasons ago with Sinclair Lewis, whom he directed in the rather clumsy Lewis attempt to write a play which he called "Angela Is 21." The cast of "Anna Lucasta" (which is not the original one by the way, because the original one was sent intact to Chicago) is marvelous, and while the general note is of deep-seated tragedy, the play has a happy ending and rounds and rounds of comedy.

It must not be thought by all this about Negro plays that we are concerned only with the Negro drama on our first visit to Gotham in many years. We mention these plays chiefly because we seldom if ever get plays of this character in Louisville, and we should be familiar with them.

Our theatergoing has included several musical comedies, much straight drama, a grand opera at the Metropolitan and one movie which we were trapped into seeing while visiting Oscar Doob, Loew's executive who passes through a luxurious screening room on his way to lunch daily.

Other Shows Recommended

The dramas we visited and recommend in addition to the aforementioned "Deep Are the Roots" and "Anna Lucasta" are "The Magnificent Yankee," "I Remember Mama," "Born Yesterday," "Harvey," "State of the Union," "Pygmalion" and "Dream Girl." "Day Before Spring" is the loveliest and most intelligent of the new musicals, but no one would want to miss the new version of "Show Boat," or perhaps "Carousel."

If we have missed anything at the theaters, it is only because in 10 days in New York, it is physically impossible to see more than 15 attractions.

Anna Lucasta passes up longevity mark of "Green Pastures"

Los Angeles Tribune
Calif.
Sat. 3-23-46

NEW YORK — "Anna Lucasta" became the longest running Negro play in the history of the American theatre Mar. 2, when it played its 641st performance at the Mansfield theatre here and passed up the 640 mark established by "Green Pastures" in 1930.

Other long-lived productions have been "Shuffle Along", which played 504 times after its opening in 1921; "Porgy", 217 times after opening in October, 1927; "Blackbirds of 1928", 518 times; "Run Little Chillun", 126; "Porgy and Bess", 124; "Porgy and Bess" revival, 286; "Mamba's Daughter", 162; "Cabin in the Sky", 156; and "Carmen Jones". 503.

Chicago finds flaws in "Young American"

Los Angeles Tribune
Calif.
Sat. 3-23-46

CHICAGO — Edwin Bronner's "Young American", latest play to get on the look-what-America's-doing-to-her-Negroes bandwagon, debuted at the Great Northern theatre here last week and had most of the local critics holding their noses.

The plot has a young composer writing a winning symphony and being invited to live at the home of the contest judge and orchestra conductor whil they smooth out the rough edges of the manuscript. The fun begins when the composer turns out to be a Negro.

William Greaves plays the part of the composer, and Sheila Guyse, a Negro maid who hates all whites and once throws a bottle of ink on the white conductor to make him "black just like us". J. Rosamond Johnson, brother of the poet James Weldom Johnson, plays the father of the composer. The rest of the cast is white.

B'way Role Eyed by Jane White

Tribune
Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO.—Although the stage version of "Strange Fruit" in which she created the leading role as Nonnie folded after a short run, Jane White is studying and planning for her next part in a Broadway show. Sat 4-11-46

In a pictorial interview in the April issue of Ebony, new picture magazine, Miss White reveals she is hard at work in her Sugar Hill home in Harlem, preparing herself for another Broadway acting opportunity in the near future.

Broadway To Have Two New Mixed Cast Plays

The Informer, Houston, Texas
Sat. 3-23-46

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—Two new mixed casts went into rehearsals here last week for the plays, "Walk Hard, Talk Loud," and "On Whitman Avenue." Canada Lee will take the male lead and co-produce the latter.

Len Zinberg's "Walk Hard, Talk Loud," dramatized from his popular novel, was first played in Harlem by the American Negro theatre which gave "Anna Lucasta" its start. Other plays which have taken mixed casts to Broadway this season were "Strange Fruit," "Jeb," "Deep are the Roots," and "A Young American." 3-23-46

Let's Call 1946 The Year Of Flops On Broadway, Critic Suggests

Chicago Defender
Ill.
4-13-46
Saturday

By WEN KROY

NEW YORK—Negroes are dramatically ambitious. Recent years have seen legitimate performs rise to new heights on the stage — far removed from the variety acts which Harlemites guzzle at the Apollo and from the "putsy wutsy" songs that eccentric singers foist on bobby soxers and elders of bobby sox mentalities.

Ambitions have led a group from the purleius of Harlem basements to Broadway fame. Meaning, of course, "Anna Lucasta" which after all is not a play of Negroes, but it is a play acted by Negroes based on a common theme.

Emboldened by the success of this play which like most hits of the stage is centered around sex, others tried their wings on Broadway with more or less success. You remember "Strange Fruit" by reputation, if no more.

And the ill-fated "Jeb" which got a workout and a going over. Then, the "Deep Are the Roots" problem play followed by "Walk Hard" which tip-toed out after a brief existence in a small house just off Broadway.

Producers are eagerly looking for novelties written by, acted by, Negroes, or with mixed casts, which are more sensational, but

Broadway will never have to fear an onrush of Harlemites who want to see their folk behind the footlights. They are not conditioned that way.

It might be a tip-off to other cities where Negroes are barred from white theaters. Even where they are permitted to attend shows and see the best, Negro patrons are few and far between and those who do go are unobtrusive and appreciative for the most part.

The best proof that Negroes will not support straight drama is shown in the attempt to produce drama at the theater recently taken over in the Bronx. They had an excellent cast, and were presenting a good show, but no dice. It folded up.

Years ago, one Milton Gorsdorfer took over the old Alhambra theatre at 126th street and Seventh avenue after the Keith interests had let it remain idle due to the influx if Negroes in that area. Gorsdorfer was a shrewd theater man. He was the first to introduce a three-in-one performance—that is, a movie of questionable vintage, a short dramatic skit, plus the regular routine vaudeville acts. It went over big and he had some fair to middlin' actors doing their stuff. But soon, he began to impress chorus gals into leading roles and tried to make purses out of sow's ears. The result, well, the whole thing collapsed.

Later, someone tried to take over the old West End theater over on 125th street, t'other side of St. Nicholas avenue. With great fanfare the show opened — a dramatic production —and, without fanfare, it closed.

Earlier, the Lincoln theater, then on 135th street just off Lenox avenue, tried to educate the clientele which favored that house, with some drama. For that Monday matinee crowd, the management unwisely chose "The Emperor Jones" and cast Jules Bledsoe in the leading role.

That, my friends, was something. After the crashing jazz overture by the Lincoln band, the house darkened and the throb of the tom-toms that furnished the show's background was heard. The curtain went up after a short pause and the stuff was on. The first part of the show was a humdinger — when Bledsoe in his flaming red uniform and gold epaulettes ordered the white trader about and loudly proclaimed he was the emperor. But after that, when the poor old emperor was lost in the jungles, the crowd got lost too. They began hurling insults to the actors and got so noisy the show had to be halted. Frank Wilson, later star of the original "Porgy" and a favorite in Harlem where he had carried mail, was called to the stage and tried to placate the audience.

R. M. [illegible] N.Y. Mon [illegible]

Broadway doesn't like Rankin's maneuvers either, and says so with signatures. Lloyd Gough, of *Deep Are the Roots*, signs petition, presented by Lt. Leon Benofsky of the Veterans Against Discrimination, asking Congress to abolish the Rankin Committee on Un-American Activities. Waiting their turn to sign are Jane White, formerly of *Anna Lucasta*, and Gordon Heath, lead in *Deep Are the Roots*.

'This, Too, Shall Pass' Hits at Anti-Semitism

Daily Worker

By Samuel Sillen *New York, N.Y.*

IN ADDITION to four plays dealing with the evils of Jimcrow, two plays about anti-Semitism have been produced on Broadway this season. The first was Arthur Laurents' **Home of the Brave**; the second is **This, Too, Shall Pass**, the new play by Don Appell at the Belasco Theatre.

5-30-46

In **Deep Are the Roots, Jeb** and **On Whitman Avenue**, we saw Negro veterans who had served their country heroically on foreign battlefields, only to come back to an America which practices the barbaric racism of the enemy. Similarly, in **This, Too, Shall Pass**, a Jewish veteran returns to find that fascist-minded prejudice against his people has not been burned out by the war.

The soldier, Mac Sorrell, had become a sort of big brother to young Buddy Alexander overseas; Buddy wrote enthusiastic letters about Mac to his gentile family in a midwestern town. But Buddy had failed to mention the fact that Mac was a Jew, and it is not until this fact is revealed that any opposition develops to the projected marriage of Mac and Buddy's sister, whose love affair blossomed through wartime correspondence.

The family is torn by a conflict that bears an interesting resemblance to the one in **On Whitman Avenue**. It is Buddy's mother, member of various liberal anti-discrimination committees, who reveals a deep, hysterical anti-Semitism as she fights against her daughter's marriage to the Jewish veteran. Her husband, a surgeon, emerges as a decent human being who for the first time understands the viciousness of the woman he has been living with for over half his life. Buddy breaks with his mother, while his sister, at first divided, finally goes off with Mac, leaving a broken, isolated Mrs. Alexander.

The play is a sincere portrait of the crippling effects of anti-Semitism on the mother's personality and on the human relationships within the family. The playwright, in counterposing genuine friendship and love against the warped, prejudice-bound mother, has contributed to Broadway another welcome indictment of bigotry.

As drama, however, this does not measure up to its major theme. Once the conflict is stated, Appell finds himself repeating it on the same level. The characters have a one-dimensional quality; we do not feel that the playwright has dug deeply into their motivations.

This weakness is related to a larger problem illustrated also in **Home of the Brave.** *5-30-46*

Is it enough for a playwright to express his aversion to anti-Semitism, Jimcrow or any other evil? Is it not also necessary that he explore character deeply in order to lay bare the roots of thought and behavior, roots that lead us back to society?

Ibsen and Chekhov, in enlarging our understanding of people, also enlarge our understanding of society. They make us see why some people behave one way, other people another way. But in virtually every American play today, including most of the social plays, we are simply told that people react differently, not **why** they respond the way they do to the issues that confront them in their lives.

When we do get the **why**, we tend to get it in two opposite and unsatisfactory forms. One is through a merely subjective analysis which more and more frequently, both in drama and fiction, occurs within a psychoanalytical framework. The other is through set speeches in which the audience listens to political explanations that may have general truth but no intimate relation to the character mounted on the stage; in this type of play, characters become mere symbols of social ideas and forces. *Thursday*

It is less easy to achieve that subtle integration in which the dramatist, through revealing character profoundly, reveals the social forces that impinge upon and help mold character. Only in this form are we likely to get fully-satisfying plays about such vital themes as the anti-Negro and anti-Semitic patterns of American life.

This, Too, Shall Pass, though it is not as penetrating or as moving as one should like, nevertheless expresses a highly significant mood in the theatre. The outstanding performance is by Sam Wanamaker, who plays Mac Sorrell with naturalness and simplicity. Ralph Morgan gives a subdued portrait as Dr. Alexander, while Kathryn Givney plays the mother. Walter Starky appears as Buddy and Jan Sterling as the sister. The production, staged by the author, has a conventional living room setting by Raymond Sovey.

"Anna Lucasta" Plays 744 Times

Afro-American

NEW YORK—"Anna Lucasta" gave its 744th Broadway showing last Friday for an all-time record for an all-colored cast play. The number of performances by other plays now running with mixed casts and all-colored cast follow:

Deep Are the Roots	283
Show Boat	167
St. Louis Woman	71
Call Me Mister	50
On Whitman Avenue	27
Now Closed	
Strange Fruit	60
Carib Song	36
Carmen Jones (Revised)	32
Jeb	9
Walk Hard	7

Baltimore, Maryland

Negro in American Theatre Discussed

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Sat. 9-21-46

"Can the theatre fight the press-fomented slanders against the Negro people?" Believing that the answer is "Yes" a forum is being called on Oct. 7 by Stage for Action to discuss ways and means.

Chaired by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, outstanding Negro leader, the forum will discuss the Negro in the American theatre from every aspect — acting, writing, production.

Current events in the theatrical world have given much background for such discussion, it is felt. The successes of such plays as **Deep Are The Roots, On Whitman Avenue,** and the Negro **Romeo and Juliet** have made inroads into a long standing Jimcrow tradition in the theatre. As was pointed out in Mr. Sillen's column yesterday, the casting of Canada Lee to play a white role opposite Elizabeth Bergner is an important event in the fight to establish full citizenship for Negroes on our stage.

The forum will be called The Negro in the American Theatre and **will be held at the Fraternal Clubhouse, 110 West. 48 St.,** on Oct. 7. **It is open** to the general public.

Speakers will be Sam Sillen, of **the Daily** Worker; Abram Hill, **founder** of the American Negro **Theatre**; James Gow, co-author of **Deep Are The Roots**; Maxine Wood, author of **On Whitman Ave.**; Dr. Max Yergan, of NAACP; Theodore Ward, Negro playwright; and Frederick O'Neill, star of the Negro **Romeo and Juliet.**

Former District Girl Returns Home as Star of Broadway Play

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-24-46

By OSCAR HAYNES

WASHINGTON

When Rena Mitchell was still a pupil in primary school, here in the District, she became interested in theatricals.

In the course of a visit to New York, while still a mere lass, she secured a role in the radio show "John Henry," and her first step to big-time.

From radio, it was but a short journey to the stage for this charming young Washingtonian.

The last radio drama that Miss Mitchell appeared in was "John's Other Wife," a commercial sponsored by the Edna Wallace Hopper cosmetic company.

Played in "Native Son"

Miss Mitchell has been seen in such stage hits as "Old Man Satan," "There's Always a Breeze", "Jezebel", "Mamba's Daughters", and "Native Son".

She is now appearing in "Dear Ruth", a comedy-hit which played Broadway for two seasons. Acclaimed by the New York critics as "A Winner", the play is in its fourth week at the National Theater. It is due for a return engagement to Chicago where it played for 47 weeks last year.

Dora in "Dear Ruth"

Miss Mitchell plays the role of Dora in "Dear Ruth" and really turns in a stellar performance. Her understudy in this comedy-hit is a young white actress, which lends more prestige to the performer and the role.

First Grown-Up Role

During the interview backstage at the National, Miss Mitchell told the AFRO that her favorite part and play was the sweetheart of Canada Lee in "Native Son." "This," said Miss Mitchell, "was my first opportunity to play the role of a grown-up."

She had always been given the role of an adolescent because of her extremely youthful looks. However. She has been in big time for some 12 years.

A native Washingtonian, she is a graduate of Storer College, Harpers Ferry, W.Va., and has always played the lead roles in school and church plays.

MISS RENA MITCHELL

66b 1946 New York Players' Guild

Ruth Attaway Heads Body to Restrict Type-Casting

Afro-American 1-5-46
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Formation of the New York Players' Guild, a new repertory company that will concern itself with the development of actors both in terms of technique and wider acting experience, has been announced here.

Ruth Attaway is director and has been conducting rehearsals of the first two productions. The first of these, "Ladies in Retirement," will be presented at Carnegie Chamber Music Hall on Jan. 17 and 18.

Miss Attaway, a graduate of the University of Illinois, was last seen on Broadway in "You Can't Take It with You," the Hart-Kaufman comedy which won the Pulitzer prize. Afro-American

Two Years Overseas

In 1942, Miss Attaway joined the American Red Cross and served two years in England as a club program director and as a clubmobile captain. Since returning to this country one year ago she has been engaged in selecting and training members for her new company. 1-5-46

"We intend to contribute to the process already underway to free the colored actor from the serious restrictions that have been imposed on him through racial type-casting and caricaturing," Miss Attaway stated. "We believe that those in the theatre, as in other arts, has yet to secure due recognition as a complete artist operating over the widest possible area.

"We are aware of the important part colored repertory is playing in stimulating playwrights throughout the country and hope to add to this inspiration."

MISS RUTH ATTAWAY

Salary Inadequate, Teacher Turns to Stage for Assistance

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Pointing to the inadequacy of teachers' salaries, not only in this section but throughout the country, Mrs. Beatrice Thompson said, this week, she considers herself lucky to have found a stage role to eke out her meager salary. *Sat. 12-28-46*

Mrs. Thompson, who has been a teacher in Public School 67, Brooklyn for 22 years, and earns $65.38, is in the role of Coralee in the Broadway hit, "Another Part of the Forest."

Said she with a note of deep relief: "One of my boys finally grew up and won fame and helped me get a break in the theatre. Maybe, now, I wil not have to keep boarders again!"

Outstanding Teacher

Mrs. Thompson has won city-wide recognition in her profession. In 1940 she was cited among twenty-five "typical New York teachers", who received honorary citizenship certificated from New York City. She is actve in YWCA work and spends much of her time in coaching talented pupils after school.

Heath to Aid

The part of Coralee, the maid who mothers her employer in "Another Part of the Forest" was obtained for her by a former pupil, Gordon Heath, who was one of her proteges before he made his mark in "Deep Are the Roots." *12-28-46*

Mrs. Thompson lives at 906 St. Mark's Place, Brooklyn, with her husband, Pierce, two daughters and her invalid mother.

The Play, 'A Young American,' Gets Our Scribe Into Argument

Chicago Defender, Ill.

THE CAST—3-9-46

"A YOUNG AMERICAN." A play by Edwin M. Bronner. Directed by Albert de Courville. Presented by Lee Shubert and Mr. DeCourville at the Great Northern Theatre with the following cast:

Mrs. Hastings	Grace Mills
Jacob Geismar	Liam Dunn
Alexander Cortell	Raymond E. Johnson
Lynn Cortell	Martha Jean
Steve Willougsby	Lyle Bettger
William Farrell	William Greaves
Sophie Baines	Sheila Guyse
Professor Arnold Harmon	J. R. Johnson

Sat—

By AL MONROE

"A Young American" opened at the Great Northern Theatre Wednesday night almost unheralded by advance bookings. It will perhaps slip out of Chicago just as quietly for the play isn't one that patrons of loop houses are willing to admire.

For one thing it brings to the theatre the problems of the Negro and in so doing places the blame at the doorsteps of the guilty. And, it so happens that the guilty ones, as depicted by the author, are whites who, in all fairness, do not choose to have their errant ways over-dramatized on the stage.

"A Young American" is both "theatre" and real life, and for once in a play I find myself with an argument not with the author or the actors but the house's patrons whom I am afraid will choose to remain away from the theatre in great numbers. They did on opening night.

And yet, and on second thought, perhaps I should not expect my metropolitan fourth row aisle comrades, nor their readers to become over enthusiastic over a play such as Lee Shubert is presenting at the Great Northern.

Certainly when the daughter of a white director stands alone, even in a play, to defend a young Negro against discrimination by her relatives, friends and sweetheart, the reaction is bound to shift into reverse. It did at the Great Northern Theatre Wednesday night—it likewise did in the reviews the following morning.

The story deals with a young composer, unknown, who after having his "score" accepted in a contest, is invited to spend several weeks as guest of a famous conductor who is to direct the opera when it is presented on Broadway. When he arrives at the home, and it is discovered he is a Negro, things begin to happen.

The servants leave, intolerance becomes magnified, and the composer gets his first taste of discrimination. He is finally driven from the home but with the blessings of the daughter, who assures him "we'll meet again."

The acting is, for the most part well done. Sheila Guys as "Sophie Farrell," the maid, who is brought in when the whites refuse to carry on, is worthy of her role, especially when she takes over in protest against the household's intolerance. William Graves is splendid as the young composer; Martha Jean as the daughter is Broadway in Chicago and Lyle Bettger as the "sweetheart" is much better than most of the heralded villains we've reviewed this season.

3-9-46

Yes, "A Young American" is a play about intolerance, a word we had little respect for until we witnessed its picturization on the stage at the Great Northern Wednesday night. We'll try and see the play again. You'll have no regrets at seeing it once.

OK

Vet Theatre Suffers Setback with 1st Play

Daily Worker

By John Hudson Jones

The founders and members of the Veterans Theatre should be commended and encouraged for organizing themselves with the aim of bringing good drama to Harlem and elsewhere. They have however done themselves a disservice with "Black Messiah," which is a dull, awkward, and embarrassing production.

It is based on the life of Father Divine, certainly a dramatic story to work with, but never rises above the level of slapstick, and very obvious caricature.

Friday 6-21-46

Deacon Jones played by Monte Norris is an old Negro pastor in Georgia who gets "the call" to be God and lead his people out of their misery. Martha Jones his wife played by Josephine Woods is his first convert, and subsequently his chief angel. "Father Sublime" as he calls himself after becoming "God" performs several miracles by rather dubious means, starts a huge following and a widespread reputation.

A New York racketeer and confidence man, hears about "Father Sublime," comes down to Georgia and persuades him that in Harlem "the people are in sin up their necks." He of course becomes "Father's" chief lieutenant and treasurer, and takes him and all his "flock" to Harlem.

Occosional spots of real Negro folk humor come out despite the stilted writing.

The Veterans Theatre is an interracial group of sincere hard working people. It is unfortunate they have spent their time and potential talents with material that drags them down.

THE BLACK MESSIAH, a new comedy drama with music in three acts. Presented by the Veterans Theater at the Triboro. Cast includes Monte Norris, Josephine Wood, William Houseman, Beatrice Murphy, James Gross, Malco Lewis and others. Scenery by Monte Norris. Original music score and 27-voice choir directed by Frederic Johnson. Directed by James H. Dunmore.

Fri. 6-21-46

Critics Rap "Messiah" as 'Crude Melodramatics'

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 6-29-46

NEW YORK (ANP) — "The Black Messiah," initial effort of the Veterans Theatre Group, was called an unfortunate choice by Variety last week. The play, showing at the Triboro in Harlem, is woven around the life of Father Divine.

Written by Dennis O'Donohue and James H. Dunmore, the play is criticized for its "crude melodramatic devices and exploitation of backward prejudices in showing the race as a superstitious, gullible person."

Described as a "faintly-disguised chronicle of Father Divine's rise from obscurity," the play follows the career of a small town deacon to worldwide fame through a numbers' racketeer to his finish as a comic-pathetic despised and broken man.

The cast includes Monte Norris, as "Father Sublime," and William Houseman as the gangster. Co-playwright Dunmore was the director.

TO ENTER HIT PLAY

Barbara O'Neil, who will assume Carol Goodner's role in "Deep Are the Roots," next Monday. The latter is resigning because of ill-health. Wed 2-20-46

...water, Theodore Newton and Robert Harrison. Henry B. Scott will play the returning veteran around whom the play centers.

Selection of this cast adheres closely to Director Eliz Kazan's desire to achieve a company which will be equal to the Broadway troupe.

150th Performance Of 'Deep Are Roots'

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.

With the theatrical season entering its final phase, **Deep Are the Roots,** the drama by Arnaud d'Usseau and James Gow at the Fulton which reaches its 150th performance tonight (Monday) still remains the only dramatic smash hit on Broadway. Produced by Kermit Bloomgarden and George Heller, and directed by Elia Kazan, **Deep Are the Roots** has a cast headed by Carol Goodner, Barbara Bel Geddes, Edwin Jerome, Gordon Heath and Harold Vermilyea. 2-4-46

The national company of **Deep Are the Roots** is currently playing a two-week engagement in Boston as part of its country-wide tour.

"Deep Are the Roots" on Tour

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK (ANP) — The Broadway play, "Deep Are the Roots," which has caused such a flurry of comment for its searching treatment of colored and white relations in the post-war South, began its national tour Jan. 24.

With New Haven as its first stop, the play will be presented to audiences in Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chicago and Toronto as well as smaller cities.

Written by Arnaud d'Usseau and James Gow, the play's touring cast will be headed by Edith At-

CHARLES WALDRON

CHARLES WALDRON, NOTED ACTOR, DIES

The New York Times New York, N.Y.

Stage and Screen Veteran, 71, Played More Than 400 Roles —Was in 'Deep Are Roots'

Thur. 3-7-46

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., March 6 (U.P.)—Charles Waldron, veteran stage and screen actor, died here Monday night at the age of 71. He returned here recently after becomin gill in New York while appearing in the play, "Deep Are the Roots."

He leaves a widow, May; a son, Charles A. Waldron, and a daughter, Donnee.

A funeral service will be held on Friday.

Mr. Waldron, who played more than 400 roles, specialized in stern fathers, kings or Southern colonels in the latter part of his career. Perhaps his most important appearance as a tyrannical parent was as Edward Moulton-Barrett in Katharine Cornell's production of "The Barretts of Wimpole Street" in 1931.

Born in Waterford, N. Y., son of Mr. and Mrs. George B. Waldron, well-known actors of the last century, Mr. Waldron made his debut on the stage with David Higgins in "Kidnapped." His first New York appearance was at the Murray Hill Theatre in 1898 as Jefferson Wayne in "The New South," with Henry V. Donnelly's Stock Company. Thur. 3-7-46

Subsequently, he played with repertoire companies in Cincinnati and at the Alcazar, San Francisco, where he was acting at the time of the earthquake. He attracted attention in New York in 1907 at the Belasco Theatre as Lieutenant Burton in "The Warrens of Virginia." He next toured Australia and New Zealand, playing Jim Carston in "The Squaw Man" and the tile role in "The Virginian."

Mr. Waldron received favorable notices for his portrayal of the editor in "The Fourth Estate" at Wallack's Theatre in 1909, and was almost a matinee idol in the title role of "Daddy Long Legs," with Ruth Chatterton, 1914 to 1916. He also enacted this part in London and Australia.

Subsequent local appearances were in "The Passion Flower," with Nance O'Neill, in 1920; "Mary Stuart," in 1921; "A Bill of Divorcement," Miss Cornell's first success, in 9211; "Mrs. Partidge Presents," with Blanche Bates, 1925; "Hamlet" (in modern dress), 1925; "Magda," 1926; "Madame X," 1927, and "Coquette," with Helen Hayes, 1927.

Also "Those We Love" and "The Vikings," 1930; "Schoolgirl," 1931; "Elektra" and "Lucrece," 1932; "Alien Corn," 1933; "L'Aiglon" and "Romeo and Juliet," 1934; "Winterset" and "Saint Joan," 1936, and "I Am My Youth" and "American Landscape," 1938.

Mr. Waldron also appeared in many motion pictures, among them, "Mary Burns, Fugitive," "The Great Impersonation," "Ramona," "The Garden of Allah," "Kentucky" and "Marie Antoinette."

He belonged to the Lambs.

MORE ON BRETT'S PROBLEM

P.M. 2-3-46 New York

While I appreciate Brett's eagerness to help his people (Deep Are the Roots), I differ with him about remaining in the South under present conditions. Here are some facts which you, I and America must face:

1. War has changed Brett — for the better. Brett entered the Army a humble, compromising, easy-going, so-called "good" Negro, born and reared in an inferior position, and unconsciously saturated with the doctrine of *white supremacy.* He had never seen democracy even partly in practice until he joined the Army.

Caught with its trousers at half mast, the Army *had* to put nearly a million men of color in uniform in World War II, and, for peace's sake, commissioned some 6000.

Not all of Brett's Army experiences were harsh and bitter. At times there was a brief let-up when he went on liberty parties. Here he met men of all races. He played billiards with white boys, ate and drank with them, socialized in general with them. It's just the way things happened in Europe:

Brett learned another great lesson—that white boys can be some swell kids when they get to know you and you know them.

2. War has not changed the South for the better. It doesn't even *pretend* to be different; it doesn't even *promise* the Negro anything. It stands pat on the traditions of a hundred years ago—"Nigger" . . . "Boy" . . . "What's your *first* name?" . . . "Say 'yes, sir,' boy" . . . "Wait till the white folks get on" "This is a *white* primary." No, Brett can't take all this now, so he had better leave. 2-3-46

3. White veterans can't help much. "But these young white boys are going to change this thing," I often hear, and wish like heck it were true. At best, these young men are but a small percentage of the ruling class of the South (most of them never having held a public job) and 20 per cent of them (according to recent Army figures) will not return home, plus the number who will remain in the service. And having fought in a segregated Army, many of them never came in contact with the Negro. Some even helped to spread the message of hate in countries where segregation had never been. But the most disappointing experience the writer has ever had is that of seeing how so-called *converted* people can change once they set foot on Southern soil.

4. The North needs Brett—badly. Very many of its sons had never eaten or slept with a Negro before the war and a lot of them would be much better if they came in contact with fine, promising fellows like Brett. Brett will find plenty work giving leadership in places like Chicago and New York.

The best thing your Government and mine can do now is to find a place in the North for those Southern men (white and Negro) who have been "changed" by World War II. Brett has risked his life all over the world and, by the grace of God, has managed to come back safe. He'd be a fool to risk it again. 2-3-46

FELIX L. PAUL, Y2c

Lido Beach, L. I.

Time New York N.Y.

Died. Charles Waldron, 71, character actor, veteran of 400-odd roles (among his sinister creations: Edward Moulton-Barrett in *The Barretts of Wimpole Street,* Senator Ellsworth Langdon in now-playing *Deep Are the Roots*); in Hollywood.

Rootless Roots

New Republic

TO TALK ABOUT the current dramatic success, "Deep Are the Roots," is necessarily embarrassing; you cannot exactly say to your readers—who are your guests, as it were—that anybody who thinks this is good writing is a person of boorish taste indeed, and that anybody who is deeply moved by these presentments is deeply simple. You have instead to go through a rigmarole of proving, explaining and quoting where such efforts are vain or worse.

I wrote briefly about "Deep Are the Roots" when it burst on our theatre, and I wrote mildly, describing it largely as rot with a certain theatrical facility and with a definitely popular and argumentative appeal. Then, with a troubled mind, I found myself trying to add notes to this early comment, comparing the play to the elements in "Strange Fruit" and "Jeb." "Jeb" failed, or was at least withdrawn, but what I said about it, as compared with "Deep Are the Roots," burned Mr. James Gow, one of the authors, into writing us a fiery letter alert with quotations from the play itself that seemingly should blast me.

Mr. Gow allows me my rights in thinking "Deep Are the Roots" a matter of "smooth rubbish," and then states the case against me. He has two points: 4-1-46

Mr. Young says, he writes, that "in both these plays" (he means "Jeb" and "Deep Are the Roots") "the soldier comes back and runs into the local prejudice, the Southern race problem, with its injustice—an injustice that, we should gather from these dramas, is confined solely to the South." On the contrary, Mr. Gow says, in "Deep Are the Roots," the one Northern character, in the climactic scene of the third act, says very emphatically and specifically, "God knows I can't give you the answer just because I'm from the North." To this he adds the remark that up

North they have their darkies too, love them and treat them just as badly. So that's that. But anybody with any sense of the theatre medium knows that a few words thrown in, where images, actions and general setting are speaking, amount to nothing. I remember those lines quite definitely in the play. I remember quite well thinking at the time that they were a sop thrown in for the moment. But in any real sense such lines are not what Mr. Gow's letter seems to imply, an answer to my point. What they say has about this weight: suppose we had a scene or an act about the famine in Calcutta, and there are people falling on the pavements and dying before our eyes, with British officials marching by, et cetera, et cetera, and all the while the toll of famine plain before us, horrible and gripping, and then there was a chance line to say that in Brooklyn sometimes only a quarter-pound of butter could be bought per person. The language of the theatre consists of various elements besides words, and Mr. Gow must at least have heard of that fact and must know that such a squid of a side remark counts not at all. Monday

Mr. Gow then objects to my saying that the drama of "Jeb" has a certain advantage over his drama-success in that its hero loves the South and means to stay there. In refutation he quotes from "Deep Are the Roots": the entire motivating action of "Deep Are the Roots," he says, consists of the Negro veteran's determination to stay in the South. This is home, the veteran says; his mother has lived on a dirt floor, but this is what he loves, the first cotton field he saw he almost cried, sometimes he almost forgot he was riding in a Jim Crow car. It would seem that Mr. Gow almost has me there. My remark was most misleading. And in fact I do regret that I did not express myself more precisely. I apologize to the authors of "Deep Are the Roots" for not being more exactly spoken.

What I should have said is that the emotional emphasis is not well established; the love of the South that was implied ought to have counted more definitely. I could have said that the speech cited against me by Mr. Gow was there all right in the play, but that it was immediately followed by the hero's lines about his determination to stay South for the betterment of the Negro conditions. That may be admirable, but it is not what I meant by love of the South, and who could think otherwise? Whatever the efficiency of the lines as quoted by Mr. Gow, they do not touch the real drift of that sociologically improving scene. In the theatre art it is the complete general movement, not a few jerking, quotable lines, that counts. 4-1-46

Dramatist Gow thus accuses me of "glaring falsehoods," and so they would be to simple minds avid for a literary fracas or some high moral fuddle. If you want to see what bosh he is capable of, read the introduction to the book of "Deep Are the Roots" (Scribner's, $2.50).

"Deep Are the Roots" appeared some time ago in print. I read it there, and noted the introduction signed by the two playwrights, and I decided that it was all either a case of adolescence on a paying basis or else a confusion equally johnny-on-the-spot; there seemed not a great deal to bother with any further. But looking through that introduction again, I am almost delighted to find that it is really a paradise for fools and revolutionary geese—what fun it is to talk like that, to stir the cackle of minky idlers, what silly violence could thus be projected, what inimical idiots incited. Mr. d'Usseau and Mr. Gow write an introduction strong enough to blast geraniums from nearby terraces: it is not chic to be emotional, the playwright must seize upon new and vital comment on the theatre; he must provide a happy solution—quite unlike that bold play a hundred years ago, "A Doll's House"—in controversial material he must not be inflammatory, and so on and so on, and good dramatists defy them. But who are they that say such stuff? And imagine taking them seriously! Either the authors have set up a straw man to knock over, or else they listen to a very stupid lot of acquaintances.

And as to the South they portray, we are told that it is nothing like so bad as that in Caldwell or William Faulkner, et cetera.—There are two answers to all that. Either the authors are incurably infantile or they are playing a shock-grandma game. And nobody would think them sillier than William Faulkner would. I have known him most of his life, and anybody who thinks his creation is merely Southern and realistic misses entirely the quality of his genius. He would be the first to say that "Deep Are the Roots" has the problems and types but not the quality of the Southern. 4-1-46

Meanwhile it is all logical, theatrical and cheap, full of talent, full of expert Broadway, full of trite emotions. People who have no sense of the genuine in the drama and who have no desire for any taste in literature may well read this play in its printed form. There are many dreadful precedents for its glib plausibility of statement. N.Y. N.Y.

STARK YOUNG

Barbara Bel Geddes and Lloyd Gough are in *Deep Are the Roots*, which has won the *Protestant* magazine's first annual award for "the most significant play of the season." The citation hails *Deep Are the Roots* for "advancing the cause of unity between white and Negro people, which is the prerequisite of any lasting peace in America."

Road Reaction To 'Deep Are The Roots' Makes 'Prairie Lad' Of Critic Who Held Out Long Time

Chicago Defender Chicago Ill.

By ROB ROY

The all out for "Deep Are The Roots" fight that is being made by civic organizations, individuals and others to keep the James Gow-Arnaud d' Usseau play running here in Chicago is the main topic of discussion here abouts.

And this is reflex action to what has taken place wherever the road company has appeared. In New York the original play (no better than the current edition at local Selwyn Theatre) is considered terrific "theatre" by critics and patrons alike. It has been running for almost a year and still playing to capacity. But that is New York particularly when talking of the artistic field. Sat 5-11-46

For those who, like your correspondent, have seen both plays here and in New York, there is room for interesting comparisons in the reaction of both the critics and patrons. Broadway critics reviewed the play from an artistic standpoint just as any other play.

Here in Chicago the reviewers, with two exceptions, tore into its meaning, its realistic settings, what harm it might do and, of all things, if it could do feelings between the races any good. That is Chicago or in the phrasings of Broadway, "The Prairies."

In other words the problem play written by James Gow introduces even more complexities than either the author or producer must have figured it would bring about.

And to express the belief that some of this was anticipated by the road management we present above the same scene from both companies. In one a still from the Broadway production shows Barbara Bel Geddes expressing her love for Gordon Heath; the other photo, used by the road show, in the same scene with Frances Waller and Henry Scott performing a bit of love by proxy. Sat 5-11-46

Frankly, one wonders what would happen if the life size blow up of the still displayed in the entrance of the Selwyn Theatre here was a reproduction of Miss Bel Geddes and Heath and not the one actually used. Perhaps the critic who wrote, "Nothing like this actually happens in the South," would change to say: "Nothing like this can happen in the lobby of the Selwyn Theatre as long as my word is law with the theatre managers here."

For many years I have fought with easterners who contend that New York is the nation's urban center and the rest of the population's place of abode comprises the prairies. Today, I have chosen up and taken sides with 'em. Not because of what has happened in Chicago alone but what has been observed wherever the show has appeared outside of New York.

"Deep Are The Roots" is real theatre, splendidly staged, well written and finely acted. That it brings home to some the true facts of what exists below the Mason and Dixon line is no fault of the authors. They have written facts as observed and have been reassured of the authenticity of the plot by members of the cast who have lived in the South.

The critics cannot fool the performers because they are hep; they cannot kid themselves because they have observed conditions while enjoying Florida's sunshine and the public shouldnt' be deceived. That critics won't join the bandwagon is expected. That is life. But why not do the thing for which they're paid and write about the play from an artistic and productional standpoint. In our opinion that is all authors James Gow and Arnaud d' Usseau expect. Sat-5-11-46

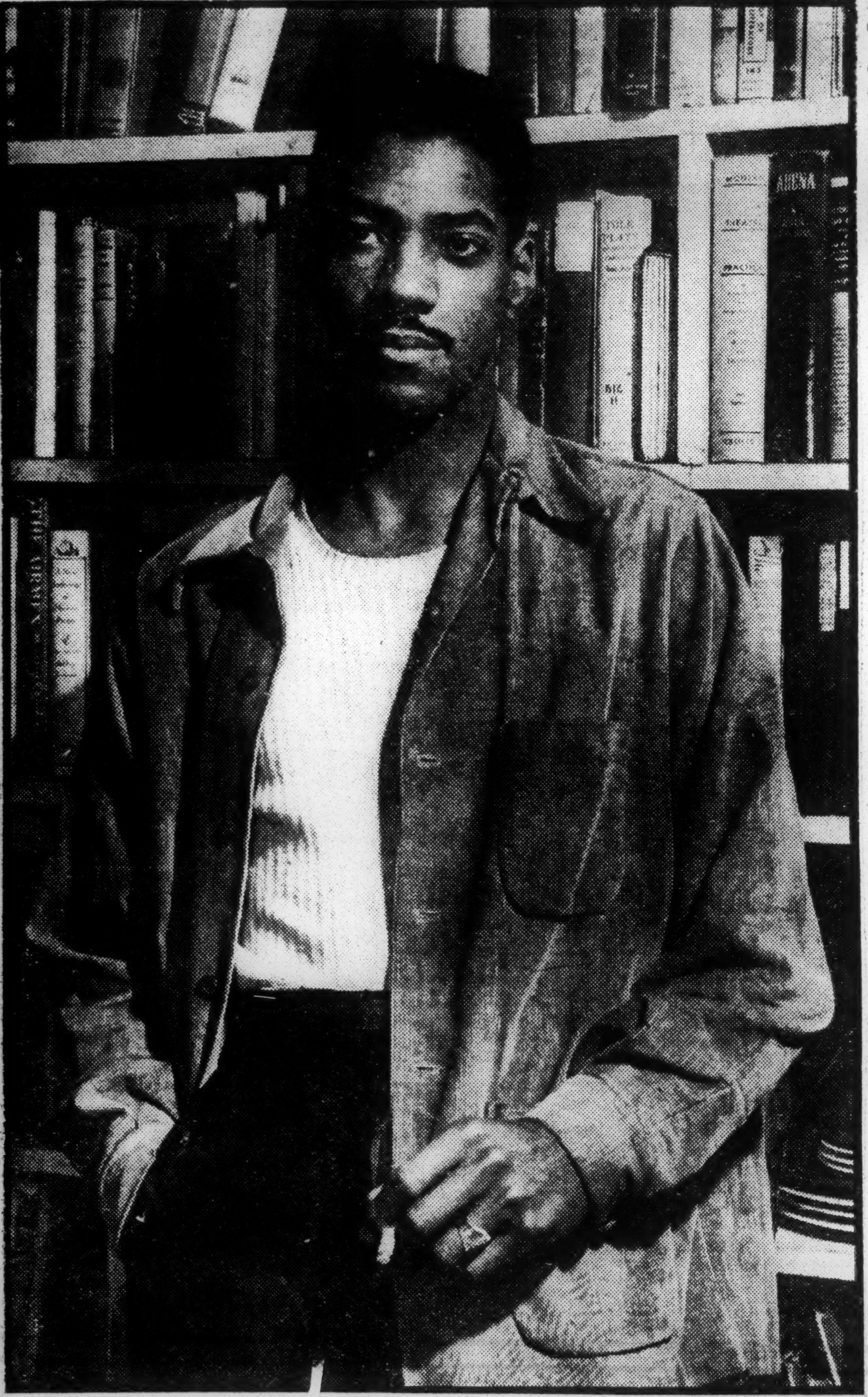


Photo by John De Biase

Gordon Heath, the soldier-hero of Deep Are the Roots, *photographed in his apartment.*

Gordon Heath explains perpetual insecurity

GORDON HEATH is the tall, good-looking young actor who portrays Brett Charles, the soldier in *Deep Are the Roots.* The part is a difficult one, crowded with melodramatic moments, and Heath turns in a good performance.

Late one morning a while back we called on him in the apartment he has in a big tenement building at 247 W. 63d St. He came to the door in bathrobe and slippers, with a damp towel over his right shoulder. A phonograph inside was playing Brahms's first symphony.

Heath, smiling warmly, said, "Hi, PM," and ushered us into a small kitchen. Then he excused himself and went into the next room. The music stopped suddenly and Heath called out he was getting some clothes on. We sat down to wait.

The kitchen was unlike any kitchen we'd ever seen. There was a sturdy work table in the middle stacked with newspapers. Newspapers were stacked high on the stove, too. Rows of shelves rose from floor to ceiling on two walls. The lower shelves were crowded with record albums, dishes, magazines; the upper ones were jammed with books— Proust's *A Remembrance of Things Past,* Louis Fischer's *Men and Politics,* Eugene O'Neill's *Nine Plays,* E. E. Cummings's *The Enormous Room,* Bucklin Moon's *Primer for White Folks,* were among them.

Heath came back, dressed, and asked if we'd had breakfast. We said yes, but we'd take some coffee. He went over to the stove and lifted off the stack of newspapers. We asked him if he was collecting newspapers.

"Not the newspapers," he said, rubbing the back of his head. "Now, where did I. . . . Oh, yes." He reached a percolator from a lower shelf. "Not the newspapers," he repeated, "but certain clippings from them. I'm way behind in cutting them out."

What kind of clippings?

"Mostly items on the theater," he replied. "But also items on music, race relations, art, and a lot of other things. I've been doing it for years. My father says I'm a junk collector."

Now it's an island

He put the percolator on the stove, then perched on a high stool and lit a cigaret. We asked him to tell us about his background.

Well, he had been born in the building next door 27 years ago. "The family's been living there for 29 years," he told us, adding that the neighborhood is one of many small Negro communities that dot New York outside Harlem. "But I remember the time when Jews, Italians, Irish, Negroes lived here side by side, happily. Now the block is like an island for Negroes set in the middle of a white neighborhood."

Heath attended the Ethical Culture School, the High School of Commerce, City College and Hampton Institute, in Virginia. His father, a YMCA worker, was born in the British West Indies; his mother is a native New Yorker. He has a sister, Bernice, who teaches in a day nursery.

Heath said he left home at 18—"There just wasn't enough room for me and the junk I was collecting." Then, watching the smoke curl from his cigaret, he went on. "That wasn't the real reason, of course. It was because of the arguments I had with my father. He didn't approve of the amount of time I spent working in amateur theatricals, or of the hours I kept. He wanted me to study something fairly academic, something sound, reassuring and regular."

Enormously proud now

Heath got himself a place in Brooklyn, but a year later he moved back, next door to his parents "where it was more convenient for borrowing cups of sugar."

"My father is an enormously proud guy now," he said, smiling again. "He stands outside the theater watching the people in line buy tickets."

After leaving home, Heath held a variety of jobs. He was an Urban League social worker, an announcer, script writer and actor with a National Youth Administration group on WNYC, also a delivery boy, commercial artist, photographer's assistant, and for six weeks in 1943, a messenger for PM.

At PM he worked from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and at the same time worked as a clerk at the New York Navy Yard from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. He wanted to get a nest-egg so he could live while hunting for something in the theater.

He left both jobs to understudy two parts in the short-lived *South Pacific,* which he described as a play about a "neurotic Negro who finds himself in league with the Japs."

Shortly after, Heath became narrator for the Pearl Primus dance recitals, and, later, a staff announcer on WMCA. He was the first Negro in New York to hold such a position. While there, he was also research director for a group producing documentary films, the Committee on Mass Education in Race Relations.

He appeared with several little theater groups, playing parts in *Pygmalion, Eve of St. Mark, Mourning Becomes Electra, Garden of Time.*

Since Heath has a larger income these days (he said he was getting "more than $200 a week," for his role in *Deep Are the Roots,* we asked if he had changed his way of life.

"Not in the least," he replied. "I'm saving the extra money for the lean years. Meanwhile, I'm doing the same things—buying books, records, er . . . newspapers," he smiled, "until they begin to crowd me out of the apartment, or I get married."

What kind of roles would he like to play after *Deep Are the Roots?*

There was a long pause. "I'll have peculiar trouble getting the kind of parts I'd like to do," he said, finally. There was another pause, then, "Let me put it this way: If a Negro actor speaks English, he has a hell of a job finding a part. But if he's a low comedian, a dialectician, he gets more chance."

This was generally the case, he said, even though the picture was slowly changing. He mentioned *Anna Lucasta* and *On the Town* as two landmarks in the right direction.

Did Hamlet once

"But about the kind of roles I'd like to do," he went on. "Assuming that a decent part won't come along every season, I'd like to play in classic repertory. I did Hamlet at Hampton this Summer, you know. There was a kind of excitement and drive on stage and in the audience that made everything go off beautifully. It wasn't only the idea that Negroes were doing *Hamlet* that made it a success. The director (Owen Dodson, Negro playwright and director) did an excellent job. I think Broadway would welcome the idea of Negroes playing in the classics."

The conversation drifted around to the part he plays in *Deep Are the Roots.* When he was at school in the South, had he had experiences comparable to Brett's?

(In *Deep Are the Roots,* a Negro soldier comes home from the war to the Southern mansion in which he grew up as the son of a servant. He has been treated as an equal by white people in Europe, and this is resented by the owner of the mansion, a retired senator, a Bourbon terrified at the idea of social equality for Negroes. The senator tries, unsuccessfully, to destroy him.)

Heath rubbed his hands. "Yes, of course," he said. "But you go around with an insecurity because you're a Negro whether you're living in the North or in the South." He snuffed out his cigaret. "You *always* have it, whether you want it or not."

How had he felt this insecurity in the North?

He lit another cigaret. "About four years ago I went to a coffee shop in the West Eighties with three friends, all Negroes. We waited 20 minutes to be served. Finally, we cornered a waiter and demanded service. He served us, all right. But when we'd finished, and he'd given us the check, he took the dishes to the next table and smashed them with a mallet.

"It was a kind of gesture," he said, "an indication that according to the [State Civil Liberties] law they *had* to serve us, but that they *resented* having to do it."

They had to give up

He inhaled deeply on the cigaret. "Well, we wanted to see how far they'd go, so we kept ordering coffee again and again and again, and each time the dishes were smashed. Raising an argument wouldn't have helped our feelings. There was nothing we could do to retain our self-respect. We finally gave up and left."

Heath got up and paced slowly across the room. It seemed as though he'd for-

gotten the interview, but he went back to the stool and continued:

"In the North it isn't so much the fear of violence, as the fear of insult or hypocrisy. When you're about to forget, when you have a certain sense of security, something happens to make you remember that the Negro is a very special case.

"You might answer a want ad that doesn't specify race. You might walk into a restaurant, any restaurant—you're never sure. You might visit white friends in an apartment house or hotel, and some friendly fool of a doorman will insist on trying to help you find the delivery entrance."

There was a silence. "Playing the part of Brett is the most satisfactory kind of experience I could have in the theater," Heath went on. "He expresses the ideals, the frustrations, the hopes and bitterness of the Negro minority.

"Three critics wrote that I'd played the part with great *sincerity*. But that *sincerity* hasn't come only from playing the part well. It comes from having been a Negro for 27 years."

'Deep Are the Roots' Wins Protestant Award

The authors, producers and cast of **Deep Are the Roots** have been chosen as the recipients of the 1945 Protestant Drama Award, Kenneth Leslie, editor of The Protestant, a non-sectarian religious magazine, announced yesterday. The award is the first of a series of annual Protestant Drama Awards to the most significant play.

The citation to the winners of the award reads as follows:

"For the forthright posing of an important aspect of the Negro and white dilemma in our country; for the courageous projection of the problems facing our Negro citizens in the postwar era; for the skilful dramatic presentation through the medium of the theatre; for having succeeded in focusing public attention on an issue which must be resolved if democracy is to prevail in America."

The individuals receiving the award are Kermit Bloomgarden and George Heller, the producers; Arnaud d'Usseau and James Gow, the playwrights, and the entire cast including a posthumous award to the late Charles Waldron, who created the role of the Southern Senator.

'Deep Are the Roots' Hits 250th

Deep Are the Roots, the Arnaud d'Usseau-James Gow play at the Fulton reached its 250th performance on May 2. Two awards have come its way during the course of its run: The Protestant Award and the Clarence Derwent Award given to Barbara Bel Geddes for the best supporting performance of the sea-

'Deep Are The Roots' Authors Strike Back At Drama Critics' Attack

By ARNAUD d' USSEAU And JAMES GOW (Authors Of "Deep Are The Roots")

Playwrights vs. the critics, a recurrently popular and quite harmless amusement, has been recently revived in New York. It is to be hoped that Chicago will not miss its share of the fun. A significant part of the game is the indubitable but little known fact that playwrights in general are the most mild and amiable of men, and when, in rare circumstances, they do rise to the bait and issue forth from their obscure lairs to answer their tormentors, it is with wry reluctance.

For the playwright, as well as anyone and perhaps better than most, appreciates the unique value of freedom of speech. That is, he understands profoundly the critic's right to free expression of his opinion—even if such opinion may verge on impolite invective and sharp personal attack. The playwright understands this, and would not have it any other way. It's part of the risk, when one puts a play upon the stage, part of the game, and we like it.

However, when the critic's anxiety to attack a play leads to irresponsible statements—that is, demonstrable inaccuracies and errors in fact—then we playwrights get awfully unhappy. It seems to us that if we all love the theatre—critics and playwrights alike—then the critics might be as responsible as the playwrights, or a little more so, since they are in practice and in truth the vestal virgins, the guardians of the temple.

On Attack

We do not use the word "responsibility" lightly. For the playwright, when he lets the curtain go up on his play, is in a terribly, an awesomely, responsible position. He may be, and frequently is, attacked for what he has dared to set forth. And if he is attacked, he may, and frequently does, face personal financial disaster, domestic problems, and who's going to pay for the baby's shoes? Despite this vast risk he takes the responsibility and faces with grim anticipation the possible consequences.

The happy critic risks no such violent and sudden disaster. In the comparative security of his weekly salary (or yearly contract) there is no slight chance that a review he writes can bring about the destruction of a year or two years of his effort and work and make him worry about the rent. He is not **responsible**. Even if he commits outright libel, the copy desk will save him.

It is the opinion of playwrights that if critics were to be held accountable for what they write, in the spectacular manner in which playwrights are held publicly accountable for what **they** write, many critics would be wiser and infinitely more cautious people.

We are gratified that "Deep Are the Roots" has found a warm audience in Chicago, and both we and the actors of the National Company, whom we love dearly, are heartened by the fact that two or three of the Chicago reviews are (from our admittedly biased position) among the most thoughtful and careful pieces concerning the play—of which there have been quite a few. The fact that two newspapers attacked the play was expected: indeed, there was an ironic amusement involved in watching the process, somewhat in the manner of observing white rats in a laboratory reacting surely and precisely by conditioned reflex.

False Implications

However, that these attacks contained false implications, irrelevant insults, and appalling ignorance of ascertainable facts, was disturbing. Even playwrights and actors are human. Even people in the theatre anticipate factual accuracy in the American press, and all too frequently, apparently, they don't get it.

One critic in Chicago (who shall be nameless because she is a woman) upon facing "Deep Are The Roots" suddenly felt awfully sorry for the Negro. Her heart bled. In her review she said, "I think this is sad, not for the white people it caricatures to the point of absurdity, but for the Negroes who are justified in asking that such a statement of their rights—and wrongs—should be a sound and serious play . . . The best roles belong to Henry Scott as the framed Negro and to Jessie Grayson as his terrified mother . . . I wish they could make their point in a living play." And in her Sunday critique, this reviewer shed anew her crocodile tears, saying ". . . it was the Negroes I felt sorry for in what was to me 'not so much play as a witch hunt in the deep South swamp of cliches'."

This is an example of the arrant irresponsibility to which we refer above. The objective, easily ascertainable fact is that the Negro press of the United States has unanimously praised "Deep Are the Roots," only rarely with even minor reservations. They have praised lavishly both the white and Negro characterizations in the play. This is on the record. All one has to do is use one's eyes.

Is it too much for the playwright to suggest that before the critic breaks her heart over the Negro people she might pay some attention to what the Negroes themselves feel about the play—if only in the interests of honest reporting—and thus bring her "opinion" of the play into some kind of connection with the objective facts? But perhaps this critic knows better than the thirteen million Negroes in the United States what's "good for the Negro." Would she even pay any attention to Mr. Paul Robeson's opinion of the play? We doubt it, but we quote it anyway. Mr. Robeson's exact words were, "This play is a magnificent document for the Negro people. Any Negro who sees this play will leave the theatre with his head held a little bit higher."

And at this point we should interpose that the fact that the Negro people of the United States have praised this play fills us with grateful humility. For the play was written not for the Negroes, who are increasingly able to speak for themselves with an eloquence far surpassing ours, but for the purpose, of jarring, startling, disturbing white people, including the critic of whom we are speaking. **And in which case, we are inclined** to think, we have been successful. At least the violence of her reaction is flattering, in a grim sort of way.

Facts Ignored

In her Sunday fulmination following the opening of the play, the same critic remarks, with a really extravagant disregard for ascertainable facts, "Mr. Murdock says our cast is as good as New York's, which surprises me, because I thought some of it suggested a hasty copy at which the director took a quick look before scurrying back to Hollywood on the Super Chief."

The exact facts are these—and they are attestable by affidavits from the authors, the actors, the advance press agent, the company manager and the producers, if anyone likes affidavits: "The National Company was directed by Elia Kazan, who directed the original New York production. The rehearsal period was three and one-half weeks. For exactly three of these three and one-half weeks Gadge (because we love him we call him Gadge, a nickname so obscure in origin as to be inexplicable) was in direct, personal and continuous charge of the company. It is true that for the first three days of rehearsal the company was under the tutelage of Coby Ruskin, a character himself worthy of detailed description of whom Chicago will hear much in the future. It is equally true (and here we get awfully personal) that the authors joined the National Company in Pittsburgh to add their modest efforts to those of the actors in preparation for the opening night in Chicago. Thus, right here and now, for any faults apparent in Chicago on the evening of March 25, the authors take the blame upon their own shoulders.

The scurrilous implication that Mr. Kazan did **not** direct the company, cautiously shielded from the laws of libel by the phrase ". . . because I thought some of it . . ." is—well, it's annoying, to say the least. And here it should be reiterated that playwrights, being notably mild and amiable people, are the last characters in the world to search for libel, and certainly the very last to be actually involved in invidious legal argument.

But the facts are the facts. And if they are ascertainable, on the record, easily reached, it is heartbreaking as a playwright—yes, and as a citizen—to see them violate with impunity. Freedom of expression is a precious possession, and playwrights are among the first to be aware of this dear privilege. It is perhaps wistful, but human, to wish that freedom of expression carried with it a moral responsibility—a passionate obligation—for strict attention to discernible facts.

Here Is The Story Of How 'Deep Are The Roots' Was Born

It took "Tomorrow the World" to rouse Arnaud d'Usseau and James Gow, authors of the Critics' Prize Play of two seasons ago, and the current "Deep Are the Roots," which opens at the Selwyn on Monday, March 25, out of their sun-crested Hollywood roosts. Mr. d'Usseau had been incarcerated in his writer's cell, grinding out such mystery pot-boilers as "Lady Scarface" and "Who Is Hope Schuyler?" While his erstwhile to-be-collaborator was the hapless victim of a more melodious fate, namely preserving opera in celluloid with "One Night of Love" and "I Dream Too Much."

Messrs. Gow and d'Usseau crossed each other's threshold when they were summoned for collaboration on "Repent at Leisure." Only in the shimmering citadel called Hollywood can a mystery writer and a grand opera scenarist be so forlornly trapped. However, they presently discovered that they tingled with one common denominator — namely to write for the serious, legitimate theatre.

With the completion of the scenario, a long and enduring playwrighting collaboration started. Both "Tomorrow the World" and "Deep Are the Roots" achieved smash box office successes, notwithstanding the gratifying fact that the aforementioned dramas dealt with important, documentary and highly exciting themes.

Cast Changes in 'Deep Are the Roots'

Major cast replacements have taken place in **Deep Are the Roots**, the d'Usseau-Gow drama at the Fulton. The role of Nevvy, created by Barbara Bel Geddes, will be assumed by Frances Waller, who played the same role in the national company.

Miss Bel Geddes, as previously announced, is withdrawing to go to Hollywood.

Theodore Newton, also of the national company, takes over Lloyd Gough's part of Howard Merrick. And the third replacement is that of Robert Emhardt for Harold Vermilyea, who, like Miss Bel Geddes, is also Hollywood bound.

A Soviet Critic Reviews 'Deep Are the Roots'

Daily Worker New York, N. Y. Tues. 10-8-46

By Samuel Sillen

When **Deep Are the Roots** opened on Broadway last season, an extensive discussion of its theme and treatment was carried on in these pages. In view of the play's controversial character, it is interesting to consider the reaction of a Soviet critic, I. Anisimov, in the Aug. 9, 1946, number of **Pravda**.

The review by Anisimov follows in full:

"According to the opinion of many American critics, the repertory of the American theater at the present time is extremely poor in works that are of real value in content and depth. Consequently, a play like **Deep Are the Roots**, by James Gow and Arnaud d'Usseau, stands out even more against such a background. We had an opportunity to get acquainted with this play in the edition put out by Charles Scribner's & Sons of New York in 1946. This play deserves very serious attention.

"The action of this play takes place in the Spring of 1945 in the living room of Sen. Langdon, who lives in a suburb of a small Southern town. As the playwrights themselves indicate, the stage set must give the impression of 'comfort and beauty.' At first sight all the inhabitants of this old house appear to be very pleasant people. The play begins at a very important moment when Brett Charles, an officer, comes back from the European front. The young man, who has been brought up in this house, comes back a hero of the war. It is known that he has earned many decorations. As the play progresses, nothing remains of the charm of that early Spring morning, nor of the 'comfort' of the Langdon house.

"We are presented with such inhuman cruelties that they might seem impossible to a Soviet reader, so barbaric are they. Nevertheless, it is the true American reality, the real American truth. The crux of the matter is that Brett is a Negro. When he was at the front, he lived under conditions of relative equality, but as soon as he comes back to his 'home town' he immediately becomes a semi-human being with whom any white person can assume an attitude of superiority and who can be treated as human trash.

"The list of crimes perpetrated by this young Negro becomes longer very rapidly; he is accused of the following: He goes to the library for a book which causes general disapproval; he goes for a walk with a white girl—a much greater crime; and, finally, he decides to go to Atlanta to attend a meeting of War Veterans—this is utterly intolerable!

"Such are the ways of the American South. We see how the 'honorable Sen. Langdon,' who at first appears before us as a loving father and a family man, turns into a wild and malicious slave owner. He decides to punish this Negro who 'forgot his place' and subject him to a 'family lynching.' He accuses Brett of stealing a watch and throws this 'war hero' into the town jail. It takes only a few days for Brett Charles to experience all stages of humiliation, beginning with the humiliating fault-finding directed at his every move and culminating in his being thrown into a city jail with local criminals.

"The authors of this play assume the calm tone of unbiased narrators which makes this horrible story of barbaric persecution of a war hero, perpetrated merely on the basis that this man is colored, stand out in even greater relief. The monstrous ideology and behavior of Sen. Langdon and of everyone who thinks as he does is exposed with great clarity. In no way do they differ from the most avid fascists.

"Some of the details of the play are extremely good. The old family watch, which sent Brett Charles to prison, bears an inscription, 'Honor Above All Else.' How can Sen. Langdon speak of Honor?

"The action of the play, which starts on a bright cloudless morning as it progresses, unfolds a very morbid, shameful picture of American life, in which racial prejudice has taken 'very deep roots.' We see with what cynicism the Mr. Langdons defend their racial 'honor.' They consider themselves justified to perform any kind of low deed, any kind of provocation, any kind of crime, as long as it helps them to preserve the white man's 'rights.' The play truthfully portrays one of the most awful plagues of American life. The play shows Americans who, like the writer Howard Merrick, criticize racial 'prejudices' so widely spread in America, but the portrayal of this character is not one of the strongest in the play. In order to change the views of the Langdons, it is necessary to have something more substantial than the liberalism of the Howard Merricks.

"It is interesting to note the playwright's portrayal of the character of Brett Charles. In American literature, beginning with **Uncle Tom's Cabin**, there exists certain unpleasant cliches through which writers, portraying the bitter plight of Negroes in America, evoke benign pity in their readers. Brett Charles in the play **Deep Are the Roots** is a hero of a different character. He does not want pity. He wants a real and decisive solution to questions of racial equality in America. He is full of energy and determination to fight for his rights along with millions of others who share the same lot. This not only makes the character vivid, but also awesome. Even a short synopsis of the play **Deep Are the Roots** shows that it is a work of great value which portrays one of the most important problems in the postwar life of America. 10-8-46

"The authors in their extensive foreword defend the rights of American playwrights to create plays which truthfully depict social conditions, which raise important problems of life, contrary to the generally existing tendencies of Hollywood and Broadway, which try to beautify life and hide its darker sides. Racial discrimination, which poisons the minds of many Americans, seems to James Gow and Arnaud d'Usseau to be one of the most burning problems to be dealt with in social dramaturgy and literature."

Barbara On Broadway

2-17-46 This Week News

BY LOUIS BERG

She started out with a famous father. Now her name is in lights, too . .

THE dawn of the new day that made Barbara Bel Geddes the most talked-of young actress on Broadway was just like the dawn of any other day. She was awakened at 5 a.m. by her eight-months-old baby, Susan, who hadn't read the press notices. At 7 a.m. the milkman—who hadn't read the notices either—started banging bottles around.

Had either Susan or the milkman read the notices they would have learned that they were disturbing an actress who had just scored a sensational success on the stage. The critics had become slightly incoherent in praise of her performance in "Deep Are the Roots," Broadway's most controversial drama.

Even today, some months after her opening-night triumph, Barbara Bel Geddes notices little difference between being an obscure young actress, rejected by Hollywood and patronized by Broadway, and being on the very top.

There are minor advantages, to be sure. For one thing, she now has a nurse to mind the baby while she is being rushed around for newspaper interviews, glamour photographs and benefit appearances.

Hungry Husband

BUT otherwise life goes on as usual. Her husband, Carl Schreuer, an engineer unplagued by theatrical hullabaloo, still pops up in the morning with a cheerful, "Say, Bobbie, how about breakfast?" and "When are my shirts coming back from the laundry?"

Nevertheless, her friends are warning her what to do and say, and what not to do and say when she gets to Hollywood. Everyone is taking it for granted that she is going there—even Hollywood, which keeps sending her scripts to read.

"But," says Barbara, "it took me time to realize what had happened. Except that my press agent bullied me more than usual."

Her press agent, an amiable fellow, who is very fond of his client, complains on the other hand that he has a hard job persuading Barbara to live up to her new role.

A sophisticated glamour magazine sent a fancy photographer around to take pictures of her in her home.

She lives in a renovated brownstone house, and she and her husband always felt it was tastefully furnished. They had worked hard enough on it, and beggared themselves buying the pieces. But the photographer frowned, and said that would never, never do. He had a friend who would lend them his apartment.

So Barbara found herself in a magnificent duplex being framed against a background of tapestries. And the lady of the house insisted that she try on some of her gowns to be photographed in.

You can judge from all this that Barbara was not prepared for her triumph; nor is she permitting herself to be overwhelmed by it. Not long ago she had been glad to get a chance to barnstorm with a USO troupe, or to accept secondary roles on Broadway. She still remembers that; doesn't want to be a morning-glory.

She admits that she probably wouldn't even have had her small first chance if her father hadn't been Norman Bel Geddes, the noted designer. And, at that, the push he gave her in the direction of the stage was a reluctant one. It happened like this: While she was at boarding school, her teacher wrote to her father saying that Barbara had aspirations—but that in his opinion she was hopeless.

This made Mr. Bel Geddes so mad that he got her a walk-on part with Ethel Barrymore in summer theater. Even the local critics didn't notice her.

Hide the Notices

BUT she got better, began to get polite mentions in minor roles, and good notices in a couple of plays that flopped. The notices got her a Hollywood contract, where her career was brief and ignominious. "It was my funny nose," she explains.

Funny nose or not (it's a very pretty nose in fact) there was something about Barbara that attracted the attention of the producers of "Deep Are the Roots." But they were pretty nervous about her right up to the final day. Her husband was under instruction to hide the Philadelphia notices from her (they were raves).

The producers were afraid of anything that might change her first Broadway performance. For her role was the delicate hinge on which the whole play rested. It had to be incredibly good to be credible. It was.

On opening night, Barbara turned to a fellow actress. "Kick me hard in the proper place," she said. "It's a superstition of mine." **The actress obeyed too literally, and Barbara was propelled in that fashion onto the stage and to fame.**

Today, at 23, Barbara has the world and Hollywood at her feet. But she is not letting success go to her head. She has a level-headed husband, who loves the theater but has no stage ambitions himself. She has Susan who is not impressed with critics' notices. And the milkman still bangs the bottles.

The End

'Deep Are The Roots' Convincing Portrayal Of Conditions Below Mason And Dixon Line

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

THE CAST

"DEEP ARE THE ROOTS." A drama by Arnaud d'Usseau and James Gow. Presented by Kermit Bloomgarden and George Heller. Staged by Elia Kazan. Setting by Howard Bay. Costumes by Emeline Roche. Presented at the Selwyn Theatre with the following cast:

Honey Turner........Franki Lynn
Bella Charles......Jessie Grayson
Senator Ellsworth Langdon.....
................Robert Harrison
Geneva Langdon...Frances Waller
Alice Langdon.....Edith Atwater
Roy Maxwell.....Robert Emhardt
Howard Merrick.Theodore Newton
Brett Charles.........Henry Scott
Sheriff Serkin....Richard Garrick
Chuck Warren......Dennis Bohan
Bob Izay...........Brett Warren

Sat 4-6-46

By AL MONROE

"Deep Are the Roots," latest of the dramas on race prejudice which opened at the Selwyn theatre Monday is easily the best in the "series." And unless the "I Don't Like Deep of the Roots Because"—reactionaries motivate a moratorium on the box office it figures to be a Selwyn tenant for a long time. It may even match the unbroken run of its companion loop-er, "Anna Lucasta" now playing to capacity.

Unlike the others "Deep Are the Roots" surfaces its mixed romance, which is the cause of the most aggravating of the problems that arise during the performance. Nothing "serious" develops however since in the end the girl, who is white, decides to leave town as she learns from the mouth of the man she loves that interracial marriages are not only impractical but offers almost unsurmountable hardships.

In most instances the story is the thing in "Deep Are the Roots." Part of the cast do things for the play; in other instances the play does things to the audience in spite of the players, many of whom handle what they've been given with doubtful professionalism.

Henry Scott as "Brett Charles", an army lieutenant, whose citations aren't sufficient cause for him to be treated as a human being when he returns to the South does a creditable job. Yet all the while, because of his good looks and indicated lack of experience you find yourself wondering what he'd do to jitterbugs at a Lionel Hampton swing fest as occupant of a vocalist's chair. However his possibilities with the drama once experience is his, are tremendous.

Edith Atwater as "Alice Langdon", liberal until she discovers the romance between her kid sister, "Genevra" played by Frances Waller, and "Bret," is at least convincing in her efforts, an asset Miss Waller also acquires during the latter part of her performance.

Robert Harrison as "Senator Ellsworth Langdon", the father, attempts to lift the drama from its serious vein by anointing most of his performance with comedy and one wonders if Authors Arnaud d'Usseu and James Gow intended that he should.

However, just the opposite may be said for Jessie Grayson who protrays the role of housemaid in the Langdon home and mother of the returned hero. Hers is serious. Theodore Newton as "Howard Merrick", a liberal Yankee draws most of the show's laughs through wisecracks that are intended to carry the show's punch and not comedy. Sat 4-6-46

Occasionally he re-enacts his performance as the lawyer in "Native Son" with speeches that are too pointed to suffer from length.

Franki Lynn as "Honey Turner," another maid in the home, is cast as a "stupid" and carries out the producer's plan admirably. She is the Stephin Fetchit of the play, as is intended we imagine.

Frankly we considered "Deep Are The Roots" interesting "theater". Convincingly if not expertly done. It is unquestionably the most dynamic thing seen in a loop theatre in many seasons. Further, to those familiar with its settings, the play is real life on the stage being lived by players who have been convinced of the plot's actuality. This you get when Robert Emhardt as "Roy Maxwell," the cousin speaks of "The Negris" and when the cast members constantly peck away at your ear drums with that slow southern drawl.

The story deals with a young Negro who returns from World War II, a highly decorated lieutenant. Just as before entering the service his place of abode is in the servants' quarters of a retired Senator's home with his mother. As a child young "Bret" had played as companion to the younger of the "Senator's" two daughters and in her way of seeing things this close friendship should continue. No one else, save possibly the Yankee sweetheart of the older sister sees it that way. Finally when it is discovered that a romance is brewing the older sister, liberal up to this point, joins the father and others of the community in seeing red. Frameup with an allegedly stolen watch places the young lieutenant in jail from which he is released on promise that he'll leave town and "go up North." Instead he returns to the home and displays a temporary intent at revenge. In the meantime the young sister, thinking him gone, starts on a cross country trek in search of the man she sympathizes with because she at one time witnessed a brutal lynching. Her trip is temporarily halted when she faces the ex-prisoner and it is here that she expresses her desire to wed him. What happened is told above.

'Deep Are the Roots' Termed Year's Most Significant Play

5-18-46
Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK—"Deep Are the Roots," which was the first play to hit closest to the prejudicial barriers erected against the progress of the Negro race and their effects on returning war veterans, received an award at a student assembly at the University of Chicago last week. Written by James Gow and Arnaud d'Usseau, the drama was commended for its handling of race relations and lauded as the "most significant play of the year."

Representative of approximately 1,000 students, the award was made by the officers of four campus groups: the Hillel Foundation, Negro Students Club, Anti-Discrimination Committee and the American Youth for Democracy. And although reviewing critics had not been too kind to the controversial piece, it was expected that interest would be spurred by the special commendation given. Sat.

To show their appreciation for the honor bestowed upon their efforts, members of the "Deep Are the Roots" cast put on a scene from the show for the benefit of attending students. Chief speaker for the evening was Horace Cayton, author of "Black Metropolis."

... and represented the second successful skit to come ... the d'Usseau and Gow team, whose previous effort, "Tomorrow the World" also played a long Broadway engagement.

During its run, the play has been given the Protestant award for advancing the cause of inter-racial unity; and a citation from the Newspapeer guild for "its courageous stand on a vital American subject." Barbara Bel Geddes, who originated the role of "Nevvy," in the play and who has been acclaimed for the best supporting performance of the season, won the Clarence Derwent award

"Deep Are the Roots" will continue its run at the Fulton theater until a new play produced by Bloomgarden is ready for presentation. It will then be moved to another theatre.

'Deep Are Roots' Passes 300th

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Deep Are the Roots, the hit play by Arnaud d'Usseau and James Gow, which is still the outstanding drama of the season, reached its 300th performance at the Fulton Theatre last Saturday. June 18-46

Messrs. Bloomgarden and Heller expect to produce a new play by d'Usseau and Gow which should be ready this fall. In addition, Mr. Bloomgarden has a new play by Lillian Hellman on his production schedule, as well as a revival of Miss Hellman's The Children's Hour.

"Deep Are The Roots" Drama Wins Citations

The Informer
Houston, Texas
Sat. 10-5-46

NEW YORK—(ANP)—The first anniversary performance of "Deep Are the Roots," the Arnaud d'Usseau and Gow interracial drama presented at Fulton theatre, brought the gross receipts for its year's run ... $6..,000. it was announced here Thursday. The play made its first appearance September 26, 1945, as the first production of Kermit Bloomgarden and George Heller.

404 Performances Old

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 9-14-46

HELEN MARTIN who is featured in the cast of the Broadway production, "Deep Are the Roots," celebrated her 404th performance on Monday, one year with her present show and her fifth successive hit.

'Deep Are The Roots' Blots Few Prejudices Its Star Once Had

"Deep Are The Roots," now at the Selwyn Theatre in Chicago loop is the most penetrating analysis of the futile caste system of the South ever presented to the American public. Miss Frances Waller, left, the ingenue, plays the role of the young sister who falls in love with the Negro returned war hero, Henry Scott. She essays the part with great sincerity because she is a part of the deep South having been born and reared in Alabama. In the spirit of the play she has emancipated herself completely from southern prejudices. In an interview with the Chicago Defender, Miss Waller stated: "I will have to admit that although I did not know it, I had some race prejudice when I accepted the role. However, after playing the part, I now feel that I have completely overcome any small bit of the feeling I may have had at the beginning. I consider it a privilege to bring this message to the American people." Center: Miss Waller is being shown a medal by Henry Scott, her co-star in the play, which he won in real life. Scott, a lieutenant with the 99th Fighter squadron over the once turbulent skies of Italy and Africa, successfully completed 20 missions. At right: Scott, tossed into the lead by accident, is truly the "find" of the season. Prior to the show's opening in Chicago, he served as understudy to Gordon Heath in the New York company. The producers gave him the part after auditioning more than a score of highly touted artists, imported from coast to coast, none of whom were able to match the perfection which characterized Scott's performance in the part.—Chicago Defender photo by Scott Tyler.

#66b 1946

John Webster's 'Duchess of Malfi'

The Worker New York, N.Y.

By John Reine-

Long considered a classic, John Webster's Duchess of Malfi has been given its American premiere production at the Barrymore. Probably because John Gielgud successfully revived it in London last season, this production imported the adaptation by W. H. Auden, the director George Rylands and the music, the scenery and costumes.

While this revival is not without interest it cannot be called exciting theatre. Sun. 11-10-46

Whether this is the fault of the production, the adaptation or of John Webster himself, it is difficult to say. It is, I suspect a combination of these factors.

Webster tells the story of Giovanna, the Duchess of Malfi, who secretly marries the steward of her household although her brothers, one a licentious Cardinal, the other an avaricious duke, anxious to inherit her estates forbade her to marry.

They get wind of her alliance through Daniel de Bosola, a spy they planted in her court. With pomp and righteousness the Cardinal excommunicates the duchess. The duke still unsatisfied murders his sister's husband and three children and hires Bosola to assassinate the duchess and her lady-in-waiting. Overcome with regret, the duke goes mad and kills his brother, the Cardinal and in an ensuing argument he and Bosola mortally wound each other.

Undoubtedly Webster found the archetypes of his characters in this drama of murder and revenge among the landed noblemen of his day (the play was completed in 1614), a time when the simmering dissatisfaction between the owners of the new productive forces and the feudal monarchy exploded into the Puritan revolution a generation later.

By telescoping scenes and adding an incestuous motive to justify the duke Ferdinand's sanguinary activity, W. H. Auden tightened the play. Although several other additions such as the offstage speech of excommunication in place of the original pantomime and two guards for purposes of exposition are inadequate and unnecessary.

Still the most effective scenes are Webster's: when the duchess proposes to her steward and later when she confides in the treacherous Bosola. But the tragedy never reaches the emotional heights that Shakespeare achieved.

Failing to probe more deeply into his characters he depended instead upon the macabre and grotesque for theatrical effect.

BERGNER'S SHOW

The production as a whole is poorly decorated and haphazardly directed. It is geared for Elisabeth Bergner and she is excellent; a distinctive personality, inventive and fascinating to watch, she has a lively theatre sense, charm and humor. She satisfies the demands of the role to be in turn winning, mature, dignified and tragic.

If the supporting players: John Caradine, Donald Eccles and Whitfield Coner delineated their characters with as much intelligence, subtley and clarity as the star, the production could have achieved stature.

This review would not be complete without mentioning one of the most interesting aspects of the entire production.

For the first time on Broadway, I believe, a commercial manager has hired a Negro actor, Canada Lee to portray a white man. He brings an energetic performance to Daniel de Bosla. This marks an important break with the Jimcrow practice that discrimnates betwen actors of different skin color.

Mr. Atkinson of the N. Y. Times felt Mr. Lee played Bosola like a white man imitating a Negro in black face. This is drivel. A white man in black face, at least in our stage tradition, portrays a Negro stereotype, he does not give a genuine portrait; it is a caricature not an embodiment. There should be only two limitations on a Negro actor as well as any other: the extent of his talents and the demands of his roles. If Mr. Atkinson saw weakness in Mr. Lee's performance he should have traced them to these not to the color of his skin.

Canada Lee, the first colored actor to portray a white character on the American stage, is shown at left as he appears in real life, and, at right, in make-up as he appeared as the white villain, Daniel De Bosola, in the "Duchess of Malfi." Lee's first appearance in the role Sept. 26 in Boston was labeled a success by critics, after he took over on short notice from McKay Morris, who dropped out of the show.

ROGERS SAYS:

Canada Lee Playing White Face Is Not First or Unusual Example of Such in Theatre

By J. A. ROGERS

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat 10-19-46

CANADA LEE, very brilliant young actor, is now appearing in Boston in the role of Daniel de Bosola in "The Duchess of Malfi," a Seventeenth Century melodrama. His role is "white" and he uses a white paste and a flowing wig as make-up which is so effective as to defy detection of his so-called race. One white press report says, "Canada Lee opened a new field for Negro actors today by donning white makeup and portraying a white character for the first time in the history of the American stage."

Mr. Rogers

Mr. Lee, who is a former boxer and is quite dark, is, in this role, a pioneer in a field that holds great possibilities for giving Negro actors an opportunity for using their long suppressed talents in roles other than as clowns and servants as is now usually the case in the movies. However, the statement that it is the first time in the history of the American stage that a Negro whitens up for a white role is positively not true. I know of one case, and of probably two others, where Negroes had great success in such roles on the American stage.

* * *

THE FIRST is Jean A. Arneaux, a Georgian Negro in New York City, who won the gold medal offered by the New York Sun for the best amateur Shakespearean player in America. Arneaux' favorite role was Othello, but he often played others. Once, for weeks, he played Richard III to large white audiences at the Globe Theatre in New York. This was in the 1870's.

The other two are Morgan Smith of Philadelphia and Ira Aldridge. Smith, who made a tremendous hit at the Old Surrey in London with his Othello, so much so that his carriage was mobbed nightly with his admirers, played white roles from Shakespeare for which he whitened up. He might have played these white roles, too, in America.

As for Aldridge, an unmixed Negro, and one of the greatest of all Shakespearean actors, Theophile Gautier, celebrated French writer, who saw him in St. Petersburg (now Petrograd) in the role of King Lear, in the play of that name, said, "A white paint covered his cheeks and a great white beard enveloped the rest of his face, descending to his chest. Cordelia, herself, would not have guessed that she had a Negro father." Aldridge returned to America in 1830, and since there was a Negro Shakespearean threatre then in New York, much frequented by whites, he might have played some of his white roles there. In any case, I have found that one has to be careful in saying that this or that case is the "first Negro" one.

* * *

AS REGARDS Negroes playing white roles, it is just as logical as whites playing Negro roles. Many white actors have blackened themselves to play Othello, for instance. Incidentally, one of the most ridiculous things I have ever seen, was Sir Frank Benson playing Othello in white face, so as not to offend American audiences and repeating such words from the play as "Haply, for I am black, "sooty bosom," "thick lips." I have also seen actresses in white face playing Cleopatra in "Antony and Cleopatra," while Shakespeare very distinctly calls her "black" in Act. 1, Scene 5, following the color by which she was known long before his time. Hannibal, too, I have seen on the stage as "white," though his coins clearly show him as a wooly-haired African. As for Alessandro dei Medici, Duke of Florence, who is described by all the writers as a Negro, and is so shown in his portraits, he was played by Frank Morgan in white-face. The Italian version of this picture, not having to cater to Dixie jim-crow, was true to life.

The role of an actor, as I see it, is to portray human emotions, and in a civilized land to a rational audience, it wouldn't matter what was the "race" of the actor conveying those emotions, because human feelings are ever the same. There is no emotion that a skilled white actor is capable of stirring that a Negro actor cannot also competently arouse; therefore, when the threatre resorts to jim-crow, as it does in America, it becomes a huge joke and a monstrosity to really sensible people.

* * *

IN FRANCE, both on the stage and in the movies, I saw such unmixed Negroes as Habib Benglia, Senegalese, and Joe Alex, West Indian, playing the leading roles with white actresses. I recall one picture of Benglia's. He plays the role of world's heavyweight champion, and a white society girl falls so violently in love with him that she invites him to her home. While he is kissing her, her regular beau comes in and picks a quarrel with the black hero, who promptly cleans up the floor with him, while the girl, thrilled, falls into Benglia's arms. The roof didn't fall in, and the audience didn't stage a riot; instead, that picture was such fine comedy that it played for months in the movie houses. I saw Joe Alex several times with his white partner at the Bals de L'Opera, and in Berlin he played several times in the movies with white actresses, one of them Brigitte Helm, one scene from which I have reproduced in one of my books. Hollywood, hog-tied by Dixie tradition, seems a century away from staging very able Negroes, as Clarence Muse, in the big, dignified roles.

However, white American movie audiences can be thrilled by a black hero playing opposite a white heroine. I recall the Italian film Cabiria, written by Gabriel D'Annunzio, in which the king, Massinissa, a great historic figure, was played by a Negro, whose name I have forgotten. It was one of the great foreign successes and must have been in America for at least eight years, since it came in 1914 and I saw it about 1922 in New York.

This stupid American custom will surely be broken up some day. When Paul Robeson appeared in "All God's Children Got Wings" with a white actress in 1924, there was a hue-and-cry against his doing so, in which many Negro leaders joined. In 1943, when he appeared with a white actress in "Othello," only the barbarous regions of Dixie objected.

CANADA LEE MISSES PLAY

The Times

Does Not Take Role at Opening in Boston of 'Duchess of Malfi'

New York, N.Y. Wed. 9-25-46

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BOSTON, Sept. 23—A Boston audience was disappointed tonight at the opening of the seventeenth-century play by John Webster. "The Duchess of Malfi," when Canada Lee did not appear for what was to have been the introduction of a Negro in a white role.

A representative of the management explained that Mr. Lee felt he was not ready to take over the part of Daniel de Bosola, the heaviest role. It was said that Mr. Lee, who was engaged for the part shortly before the play opened in Providence, R. I., last week, was ready for the first two acts but was not sure of the third act.

George Rylands, the director, played the Bosola role.

Canada Lee In 'Malfi'

The Worker New York, N.Y.

BOSTON, Sept. 24 (UP).—The first portrayal by a Negro actor of a white character on the professional stage was delayed tonight when Canada Lee asked for more time to learn the part.

Canada Lee said it was too big a thing for him and his race to jeopardize by a poor performance. He was hired for the part only last week. It was believed the first time in theatrical history a producer had selected the man he considered the best actor for a role, regardless of color. Wed. 9-25-46

"I don't want to mess this up by a poor performance," he said. "It can open up vast new fields to the Negro actor whose parts previously have been limited by color. Most of the time Negroes are relegated to funny parts that make fun of a whole race.

"I hate that. I want to prove it is art that counts. I expect the biggest going-over ever when I open but I don't mind. This can open up all roads to the Negro actor.

"I hope it will be a long step toward becoming actor Canada Lee not Canada Lee, Negro actor."

CANADA LEE TO ACT WHITE ROLE IN PLAY

The Times New York, N.Y.

Negro Performer Replaces McKay Morris in 'Duchess of Malfi,' With Miss Bergner

Mon. 9-16-46

By SAM ZOLOTOW

There's nothing at all unusual about a white entertainer appearing in blackface. But a Negro performer disguised as a white actor is a rarity indeed. Such an assignment has been accepted by Canada Lee in "The Duchess of Malfi," starring Elisabeth Bergner, it was said yesterday by Paul Czinner, sponsor of his wife's vehicle.

It came about this way: McKay Morris, who previously held the part, resigned unexpectedly. Unwilling to delay a Friday night opening in Providence, the producer quickly acted upon a suggestion from Lester Al Smith, his general manager, to engage Mr. Lee, who closed Saturday night in "On Whitman Avenue." Undoubtedly, the Messrs. Czinner and Smith realized the publicity value of the stunt, too.

Whether Mr. Lee's new undertaking means the abandonment of the tour of "Othello," in which he was to have played the title role, could not be ascertained yesterday.

After Providence "Malfi" will go to Boston (for two weeks), Sept. 23; Hartford, Oct. 7; New Haven, Oct. 9; New York (Barrymore Theatre), Oct. 15. On the word of Mr. Smith the local advance sale is more than $50,000. To the cast add Richard Newton, an English actor, who will be making his American debut.

The Duchess of Malfi (by John Webster; adapted by W. H. Auden; produced by Paul Czinner), though one of the most famous of Elizabethan dramas, received its first Broadway production in 88 years. From a theatrical standpoint, there were possibly reasons to explain the delay. For all its magnificent flashes of drama and snatches of poetry, *The Duchess* moves slowly, mounts uncertainly, lets its fire go out between quick, bright blazes. It lacks, too, the humanity that a Shakespeare could fuse with horror; Webster's tale of the rich, widowed young Duchess who remarries in secret, fearing her rapacious brothers' wrath, and is stalked and finally strangled by them, has an air of chill, a sense of night. Mon. 10-28-46

Yet *The Duchess* could be far more impressive on the stage than it ever seemed last week. Even with Poet Auden's cuts* the play had, perhaps, to be slow of pace. But it did not have to be so barren of atmosphere or thin of texture. Nor need it have been acted, and frequently overacted, in so many manners with so little style. Only Elisabeth Bergner as the Duchess played with anything like stature. Passable in an important role, and using whiteface, was Negro Actor Canada Lee.

Newsweek Dayton, Ohio

The Duchess of Malfi—At the risk of insulting your library, John Webster's minor sixteenth-century Guignol, even as adapted by W. H. Auden, the British-American poet and Shakespearean expert, is a bumbling bore. Only in the final scenes does Webster's Elizabethan elegy about a dainty duchess and her irrational brothers deserve to be rescued from the reference file. Elisabeth Bergner, who can do no wrong, is exciting as the embattled duchess; Canada Lee, a Negro actor playing white-face (NEWSWEEK, Oct. 7), is eloquent as De Bosola, the improbable brothers' deus-ex-Machiavelli. John Carradine, veteran of more than 200 motion pictures but making his first Broadway stage excursion, plays a lustful cardinal with the restraint of a movie actor determined to show Broadway that screen actors are not necessarily fustian. Even so, your reaction will be academic. (THE DUCHESS OF MALFI. *Paul Czinner, producer. George Rylands, director.*) 10-28-46

Prejudice Separates Star From Members of the Cast

First to Effectively Impersonate White Actor on American Stage; Critics Stunned

BOSTON, Mass. — Canada Lee, first colored actor to be seen in the role of a white man in the American theatre, was informed upon his arrival here that although his new show, "The Duchess of Malfi," was a sell-out, his hotel reservation had not been honored.

The reservations of all the cast were honored at a fashionable uptown hotel and when Elizabeth Bergner, who co-stars with Lee, offered to give up her hotel suite to him, the hotel would not allow it.

Dr. Paul Czinner, producer, said that he had expected Lee would share hotel reservations made for the company. During the two-night run of the play in Providence, R.I., Friday and Saturday, the actor had occupied a suite at the Hotel Biltmore. He did not appear in the Providence tryout.

Points Out Advantage

Lee said that since he had some extraordinary long speeches to deliver in it he had been studying for eight days without respite, and would have liked to have been with the cast, because it would have been possible to hold short rehearsals and conferences together in the hotel.

After a three-hour search, a room was found for Mr. Lee in the theatrical district. On opening night, Mr. Lee did not appear in the much publicized role "due to the actor's reluctance to step into a role he had not learned thoroughly."

Commenting upon his appearance at the Wednesday matinee, Elliott Norton of the Boston Post said, "although not perfect, he played it well."

Uses Special Makeup

Using a special makeup, the base of which is a white paste that women use to conceal skin imperfections, and wearing a brown wig, he looked like a white man. Except for the shape of his nose, which is broad and flat, there was nothing in his appearance to sug-

gest his race and nothing in his performance.

He was still incompletely prepared to go on stage at the matinee, for he had been hired to play the long part only 10 days ago and had too few rehearsals.

He proved what he had set out to do and that is a colored man can effectively impersonate a white one on the stage as whites have been impersonating colored for centuries. Perhaps the most striking things about the whole performance was that in some scenes you forgot entirely that he was colored in makeup.

Stimulated Performers

Mr. Lee's acting, perhaps his very presence and the nature of the occasion, galvanized the entire company into giving a performance that was far better than that of opening night.

Cyrus Durgin of the Boston Globe said, "had one not known that Mr. Lee was colored, one might have supposed him to be of some swarthy, though not specifically identifiable race. His voice would not have been a definite clew to his origin either."

Broadway Awed By Canada Lee's Performance In 'Duchess Of Malfi'

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 10-26-46

NEW YORK—A sensational new chapter in the history of the American theatre was opened up this week.

Canada Lee who earlier this year achieved widespread prominence for his performance in the play "On Whitman Avenue," began acting the part of a white man in a new Broadway show, with the aid of a remarkably effective makeup.

The play is the 333-year-old classic melodrama, "The Duchess Of Malfi" which, with Elizabeth Bergner as the star and an otherwise all-white cast, opened in New York Tuesday at the Ethel Barrymore Theatre.

Lee wears in his performance a regulation wig of dark brown hair and a special make-up, the base of which is a white paste that women use to conceal skin imperfections. In this make-up he looks like a white man.

This was the first time in the annals of the American theatre that a colored actor has played a part that didn't specifically require a Negro. It marks the final real integration of a Negro artist into the cultural life of our nation.

Two other famous performers of Canada Lee's race have, it is true, been welcomed by American theatre-goers in the role of Shakespeare's "Othello," a part usually played by white men. These were Ira Aldrich and more recently Paul Robeson. "Othello," however, was a Moor and described as being of dark complexion, so that this was still a role "suitable" for a Negro. By playing a role that has no reference to his race, Canada Lee has broken down the last barrier of the segregation that has kept Negroes in Negro parts, even during the last few years when, through the increase of plays about Negro life in America, stage opportunities for colored players have expanded.

Our Critic Isn't Sure About Canada Lee's Role Being 'Another First'

Defender Sat 9-28-46 Chicago, Ill.

By ROB ROY

Whenever I read one of those stories, long or short referring to some Negro as "the first" in something, or a play as the "first of its kind," I see red.

Perhaps not because of envy over its or his success, but in almost every case it means research and no columnist or editor cares particularly for such labors when there is a matter of making one's deadline.

One case in point is the recent arrival of a series of problem plays such as "Native Son," "Deep Are The Roots," "The Young American" and more recent, Canada Lee's "On Whitman Avenue."

There was more concern over these plays, wondering if they'd go over "since they were the first," than one cared to admit. Even the Metropolitan critics averred, "Never been anything like it before" which is far from the truth. And it took just a little research to establish this fact since right before us popped a review this chronicler did on a play called "Stevedore." A more vicious play than any of the present series, running and closed.

"Stevedore" if you saw it was a vicious bit of stage propaganda combining discrimination in the South and within the labor unions which, at that time made a practice of barring Negroes from high paying jobs.

It starred Jack Carter, one of the best in his day and carried a mixed cast.

For that reason, far be it from this screamer to agree with the press agents who rattle off column after column that when Canada Lee arrives opposite Elizabeth Bergner as a white man, in the forthcoming "The Duchess of Malfi," he'll establish a precedent. I much prefer to extend our search for proof that what I'm reading is true.

In fact it may be necessary to dig up photos to blot out a suspicion that Clarence Muse wasn't attempting, with good results, to be "white," as "Mr. Hyde" in his Lafayette portrayal of "Dr. Jekyl And Mr. Hyde.' If this fact isn't proved our guess is that all will agree that Clarence belonged to no race at all. He was an odd figure with a terrific resemblance to Frederic March's characterization of the part color and all.

—Kronenberger—

Still Plagued By Misfortune

PM New York, N.Y. Thurs. 10-17-46

PM Reviews

THE DUCHESS OF MALFI, a revival of John Webster's thriller adapted by W. H. Auden, presented by Paul Czinner at the Barrymore, with Elisabeth Bergner, John Carradine, Canada Lee, Donald Eccles, Richard Newton, Patricia Calvert, Whitfield Connor, Sonia Sorel; staged by George Rylands; scenery by Harry Bennett; costumes by Miles White; incidental music by Benjamin Britten.

The way some of my colleagues laced into *The Duchess of Malfi*, you'd imagine it aspersed the honor of their womenfolk. They made it sound much less like a classic than like a crime; or at least as though the two words were synonymous.

It is not for me to dispute how awful an evening my confreres had, but I have a feeling that rather worse plays have come off with lighter drubbings.

I myself, as it happens, am come as much to bury the Duchess as to praise her. I suggest an evening with her at the Barrymore—and then only with grave reservations—to no one who has not spent gratifying evenings with her in his library. This is no play to meet for the first time in 47th Street. There is too much amiss with Webster's tragedy judged as a stage-piece, and even more amiss with the current production.

But we are still dealing with a very noble—however uneven and amorphous—piece of writing. A great *play* it may well not be, for the villanies it hatches, the horrors it piles up, never quite induce that sense of cavernous terror that must mainly justify them. The terror is too much a matter of moments, as the play is of interludes. Webster had not Shakespeare's dramatic genius for dense fusion, for steady mounting; his stairs have far too many landings, he can only give you scenes. Nor had Webster Shakespeare's capacity to humanize: there is something of the crypt about *The Duchess.* But at its best it is dramatic and poetic both; and I doubt whether one needs to be a pundit to feel the high voltage, the fierce shock, of the poetry.

° ° °

But in the theater Wednesday night, this story of the widowed, warmblooded young Duchess of Amalfi who secretly remarries against her brothers' wishes and is slowly done to death by them, had too little power. The horrors sprung of the one brother's grasping nature and the other's fanatical emotions, piled up much as horrors do in a thriller, and without the thrills, while the stage strewn with corpses at the end seemed no resting-place for any Elizabethan world of bloodshed and turmoil. The production chiefly flagged because it lacked pace; but it chiefly failed because it lacked atmosphere. Yet, after the first act, it was often possible to feel let down without being bored. There were things to wait for and catch at, and moments when something was caught.

Miss Bergner comes off the best of the performers. In fact, after some undue coyness at the start that suggested the play might better be called *The Archduchess of Malfi*, she was often impressive, with much of the force and dignity of the woman who could say, in the thick of her misfortune, *I am Duchess of Mafi still.* As her husband, Whitfield Connor played simply and likeably. As Bosola, the villainous spy of the piece, Canada Lee enacted a white role in whiteface with surface energy and competence, though no depth. John Carradine plays one of the wicked brothers in a sort of Walter Hampden fashion, and Donald Eccles, the other brother in a style of rant, sibilance and grimace. There is no over-all style whatever. Mr. Auden's cuts seem judicious though, as it turns out, insufficient.

—Louis Kronenberger

Louis Kronenberger's review of Loco, which opened last night at the Biltmore, will appear in all editions of Friday's PM.

Back Stage Chatter

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

ROLE OF WHITE ACTOR MOST IMPORTANT HE EVER HAD, CANADA LEE TELLS AFRO

Sat. 10-26-46

NEW YORK—"This role is terrific . . . it's the most important part I ever had in my whole life, even more important than the role I had as Caliban in "The Tempest."

Thus declared Canada Lee in an exclusive AFRO interview at the Ethel Barrymore Theatre, just before he went on stage to enact the role of Daniel de Bosola in "The Duchess of Malfi," last week on opening night.

"If the play is a success and I go over . . . and I hope and expect to go over, it will be the greatest thing in the world for me. It will open up a new field of acting for colored artists that was never before open to them.

Just the Beginning

"This is just the beginning for me," he continued. "After this will come 'Macbeth' in which I will also play as a white actor, and then 'Othello.'

"I hope to be able to get Orson Welles to produce 'Macbeth' for me. Then, there's 'King Lear,' the most difficult play of them all. Besides, there are the other Shakespearean plays I want to do in white makeup."

While Canada was talking, Henry Buchman, makeup man, was busily applying a white base to the actor's face and neck; after which he skillfully covered it with a red tint and then some white makeup powder with a large powder-puff. The result was amazing.

Nobody could say that Canada wasn't a white man.

An Hour Make-up Job

Buchman then penciled in his eyebrows, applied a false nose which he also blended in with the makeup, made an outline for a short beard and moustache, and proceeded to paste the wisps of hair in the right places, later trimming them down with scissors. Canada wore a brown wig that fitted snugly on his head, and Buchman combed it as if it was his own.

This makeup job took more than an hour, and Canada was patient throughout.

He spoke out against newspapers which have derided his being made up as a white actor.

"Look," he pointed to me, as he got up to put on his costume and long black boots, "does this look so bad as some people think it does? Some people think all I do is put some white paste on my face. It's a much bigger job than that and requires lots of patience and skill."

Takes Poke at Costume

As he got ready to go on stage for curtain call, he looked at his costume and laughingly remarked: "Look at what the guys had to wear years ago. I wonder how they felt."

"The Duchess of Malfi" is one of the very first of the psychological thrillers and was written and produced originally in the Elizabethan era. Records indicate it was well received by the public at that time.

Dr. Paul Czinner, producer of the play and husband of Elizabeth Bergner who plays the title role, points out that this is the first time in the history of the theatre that a colored actor has enacted this type of classic role.

Predictions for Future

As for Elizabeth Bergner, considered by many the greatest actress in the world today, she makes great predictions for the future:

"Colored actors will play white roles without creating any furore whatever within the next few years," she says. "Nobody thinks it strange that a white man is cast as an Oriental or even an African. That is because it is the custom of the stage. There is no reason why colored actors shouldn't use makeup to portray men of another race."

When the role of Daniel de Bosola was thrown open due to McKay Morris's withdrawal, Miss Bergner and her husband considered whom they should choose to play the part.

"If Canada were only white, my husband and I said; and then we thought, what difference does it make? Canada is a fine actor . . . why shouldn't he play the role of Daniel de Bosola?

"So that is why we chose Canada and think that with the years, others will play parts hitherto assigned only to white actors."—Richard Dier.

66b 1946 Plays ("Harriet")

AMERICAN VIEWPOINT

'Harriet' Speaks For Uncle Tom

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat 3-2-46

NEW YORK—Helen Hayes, the famous star of stage and screen, talked with me the other day about everything "from cabbages to kings."

I was particularly interested in hearing her views on democratic advance because of her important role in the current enlightenment on Broadway. I refer to such plays as "Deep Are the Roots," the recent attempt to show "Strange Fruit," the coming "Jeb," and other such vehicles dealing with the Negro.

After all, it was Helen Hayes who led in this business.

More than three years ago her play, "Harriet," opened on Broadway. The story of Harriet Beecher Stowe, the noted anti-slavery advocate, ran for three years and brought forcibly to Broadway's attention the fact that the Negro question was here in America again, this time for a showdown fight.

Present Day Implications

"I was well aware of the implications of this play for our time," she said, speaking with me in a large radio studio at the Columbia Broadcasting Company. "The closing speech in that play referred to the new business of our time."

She acknowledged that "Harriet" may have presaged that trend on the stage today wherein the Negro question is focal.

Helen Hayes, who has a grown daughter, lives in Nyack, N. Y. It would be difficult to assay her role in the American theatre, her contribution to its progressive trend. An emancipated woman, universal enough to know that "race" is a lot of nonsense, she has been a dominant figure in the theatre for some time. Perhaps she and Katherine Cornell could be called the twin feminine leaders of the New York stage.

I asked her about the political situation in Nyack.

That was a good question because Miss Hayes was a voice about a year ago in the defeat of ex-Rep. Hamilton Fish, who was trying to get back into Congress as the unofficial, or official representative of American fascism.

Fought Ham Fish

The Republican community in Rockland County, where Nyack is located, couldn't stomach Fish any longer (no pun intended) and replaced him with a progressive Republican, Augustus Bennet.

When Miss Hayes got in on that campaign, her first sortie in politics, it made national news. She got out in Rockland County and stumped around for Bennet. PM saluted her, and the whole country saluted her. She may not have been decisive in that campaign but she was a factor.

I reminded her that Harlem had been pretty interested in the campaign because Fish, despite his reactionary record, had gone to bat in behalf of Negro soldiers, had called for Negro combat units.

I guess neither the Negroes, nor Miss Hayes, nor Fish, nor anyone else was confused about his motivation: it was strictly politics, not principle, that motivated his efforts.

Sat 3-2-46

"We are very satisfied with Mr. Bennet in Rockland County now," she said. "He has a good voting record."

HELEN HAYES

Discuss "Uncle Tom"

Miss Hayes, a small, blonde woman who speaks with a soft eloquence and has a very simple and unaffected manner, was glad to discuss the question of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and whether the play should be shown again in our time.

She was very well aware of the recent controversy in Bridgeport, Conn., over the showing of "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Better Dramatization

I suggested that for various historic reasons the only connotation that seems to be left of the book, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," is the use of "Uncle Tom" as a term meaning quisling. This association of the book with a type now hated in the Negro world has caused reaction against the book and to some extent against its author.

Miss Hayes believes that a good damatization of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," would straighten the matter out.

"I believe that we should by no means attempt to mitigate the influence of the play or its author in the anti-slavery period, and we should separate the Uncle Tom concept as we know it today from the revolutionary impact made by the book in its own period.

"But I would rather see new plays based on contemporary situations shown on the stage and screen rather than a revival of a book and a play portraying social types no longer acceptable or authentic."

Miss Hayes said she had seen "Deep Are the Roots' and greatly admired it. She added that she felt sorry about the show "Strange Fruit." She feels that it had great and valuable social content but that it was not well constructed dramatically.

Play "Too Hot"

Then, without any question from me, she happened to mention that she wasn't able to get "Harriet" on the radio. I inquired why, and she intimated that apparently the play was "too hot."

She said she had heard that one possible sponsor had said he manufactured dynamite in his plants but wouldn't put dynamite on the air.

I mentioned another Harriet, a contemporary of Harriet Beecher Stowe, Harriet Tubman. I was a little surprised that Miss Hayes had not heard of her. I mentioned Mrs. Tubman's work, compared her with Joan of Arc, and said that her career in history had been consciously suppressed.

"Conscious suppression?" she echoed.

"Pretty conscious," I replied, and reminded her of how she had been unable to get the story of Harriet Stowe on the air.

Suddenly I popped this question at her. Sat 3-2-46

Shies From Politics

"Say, what do you think of Ickes' resignaton from the cabinet?"

The actress shied away from that one, indicated she didn't want to get into politics too much, and didn't pretend to be expert on such matters.

I got back into shallower waters. "You know," I said, "that many minority groups are struggling for integration into the whole American scene; the Negro bloc, the Jewish group, the foreign-born people, and other portions of society. Do you feel we are getting anywhere near to it?"

"If I didn't feel that we were approaching it," she answered, "there wouldn't be much reason for hope. Yes, I believe we are moving, and moving swiftly that way."

She seemed thoughtful for a few seconds, and then remarked:

"The whole idea of 'race' is so terribly bad, so foolish, so incorrect. There is only one people, the people of the earth."

Beautiful, and simple, I thought; and it didn't come from any anthropologist, but from an actress from whom you wouldn't necessarily expect a philosophic concept.

"There's no question," she said, "about the great historic service of the book in its own period; no more question than there is about the anti-slavery fervor of Miss Stowe herself. My feeling is that many people who are poopooing 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' have not read the book. There are many fine characters in the story. And Uncle Tom himself is a very beautiful person.

"I think that the failure has been with the dramatizations of the book. As you may know, the story has been dramatized in many ways by many people. Miss Stowe seemed to have no control over that. Much distortion has crept into the portrayal of the characterization."

NEW VILLAIN— Elwood Smith who at the age of 24 is already well known as an opera singer, Town Hall recitalist, radio actor and entertainer at New York's Cafe Society Downtown. Mr. Smith has added to his laurels as the villain in the new play, "Home Is The Hunter," new being offered by the American Negro theatre in Harlem. (ANP PHOTO)

66b 1946

Plays ("The Ice Man Cometh")

The Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

IN "ICE MAN"—John Marriott is the only colored member of the cast of Eugene O'Neil's "The Ice Man Cometh," current Broadway stage offering. Marriott has a meaty, untyped role in the play.

Sat. 11-9-46

Pursuit of Democracy

O'Neil's "Ice Man Cometh" Good for Whites Who Think They "Understand" Negroes

The Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

By MARJORIE McKENZIE

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

Sat. 11-23-46

IN all the very serious homework the drama critics have done on Eugene O'Neill's much-discussed play, there does not appear any significant analysis of the play's lone Negro character. Perhaps the most notable fact that a white critic would observe about the Negro gambler of "The Iceman Cometh" is his mere inclusion in the cast. I have seen no comment on O'Neill's preoccupation with the problem of race, no attempt to relate this new personality to the characterization in "The Emperor Jones," nor any interpretation of the plausibility of the Negro derelict in "The Iceman Cometh."

Miss McKenzie

Joe Mott, as he is called, is one of a dozen drunken bums who cling, like a row of barnacles, to a seedy old bar and its drunken owner as their only security in the world. They live on his sufferance and their own pipe dreams of a better to-morrow. At least they do until an old friend, given to yearly drunken sprees with them, returns and robs them of their dreams by making them face reality. Self-knowledge and the loss of illusion make life unendurable for them. Only when they are free to go back to their fantasies are they able to resume the pattern of their lives.

* * *

IN THIS FRAMEWORK, O'Neill has created an authentic lower-class Negro, broken and thwarted by social pressures until both self-pride and pride of race have been lost. Joe's pipe dream is that he will make a touch, run it into a stake and once again own a successful gambling den. His boast is that once again white men will say to him, "Joe, you're white," the ultimate accolade of the prejudiced. When oJe is made to face the truth about himself and the esteem he can expect from the "white trash" with whom he has been living, he makes a stirring speech, born of his new identification of and with himself as a Negro. He stands at the bar, drinking one final drink before leaving to make his life over (all the other bums also go forth to conquer their dreams) and as he finishes, he dashes his glass to the floor. The barkeep protests and Joe snarls out of his new-found courage that he is only saving them the trouble when his back is turned. He will buy them all a drink when he comes back some day, he asys, but it will be bought with a black man's money and they will be drinking with a black man when they drink with him. His bitter rejection of his former accommodation brought swift response from the audience and the first applause of the evening.

* * *

IN THE END, Joe comes back to the bar as do all the others, a nest of bedraggled rats returning to their proper warren. It was too late for them to start again; they are too disintegrated, too broken by their alcoholism to translate the pipe dreams into successful living. We know that Joe will go back to dusting the bar and sweeping the saloon for a drink. We know that he will go on grinning when the other bums patronizingly tell him he's "white."

O'Neill may not have intended Joe to typify the dilemmna of all Negroes, or of the oppressed generally. Nevertheless, his theme is not obscure, not personal: it is a recognized concept in the social sciences. Often individuals in a devaluated group, in making their adjustment to the world in which they must achieve safety and a livelihood, outwardly seem to accept the dominant group's low estimate of their worth. In this kind of adjustment we find our Uncle Toms, the Negroes who profess a low opinion of themselves and of all other Negroes. Once in awhile, one of these "good" Negroes will surprise everybody by breaking out of character, by running amuck, by outdoing the most aggressive Negroes in the community in evidences of aggression far surpassing theirs. This is, of course, only a manifestation that the aggression against his oppressors has been there in Uncle Tom's bosom all along and may even be more violent and intense because it has been bottled up.

* * *

A LOT OF white men know these things about personality, but they are not playwrights. Usually the people who write plays and movie scripts and even books play their Negro character straight and one-dimensional. These Negroes are either "good" or "bad" or "funny." They are not shown as creatures in conflict, attempting to deal with almost unmanageable forces. Their complexities are not caught except by a few Negro writers, as for example, Richard Wright, and even fewer white authors, as, say Lillian Smith, who sees even more clearly the complexity of the white personality in the Southern racial pattern. *11-23-46*

So in this sense, O'Neill is doing a good if small job in race education on Broadway this year. Playgoing audiences will get the idea that they may not know as much about smiling Negro personal service workers and grinning Negro entertainers as they think they do. Especially will "The Iceman Cometh" be good for those white folk who "understand" us so well.

66b 1946

Plays("Jeb")

A Broadway Observer Appraises Stage Flop And a Celluloid Hit

Washington Post
Washington, D.C.
Mon. 3-4-46

By Howard Barnes

New York, March 3.—Indignation and communication are two qualities of stagecraft which have been overlooked frequently in the contemporary theater. Form without substance has been the order of the day.

It is good then, to find Robert Ardrey writing a stern and eloquent play about racial intolerance and Herman Shumlin producing it with emphatic skill.

"Jeb" is the second drama of the season in which a returning Negro war hero commands the center of the stage. It was as fragile in construction as "Deep Are the Roots," in which Barbara Bel Geddes and Gordon Heath are mesmerizing audiences at the Fulton. In by-passing a hint of miscegenation, however, it stated its theme with even more clarity than its illustrious predecessor.

"Jeb" was full of faults. It rose to a terrific climax and threw it away in a series of theatrical afterthoughts.

Even the rigorous direction of Shumlin did not hold the show in the mold which Ardrey obviously intended it to have.

At the same time, there was so much persuasive talk and so much brilliant acting at the Martin Beck Theater that "Jeb" is definitely a play of substance, no matter how crude its construction.

Dramatic Discretion

The author wisely refrained from pitting an ignorant colored boy solely against white enemies. The much decorated engineer who comes back from the Pacific to find a niche in civilian life is set upon by his own people long before he is almost lynched by a Deep South posse. Mon. 3-4-46

The work was a vibrant drama of the war as well as a tract on racial discrimination.

As such, it amply deserved attention. Ossie Davis, the hero of the show, walks into a clip-joint saloon in what might well be Harlem with his back pay and promptly gets rolled of his cash and medals. Since Carolyn Hill Stewart played the part of the Negro hustler with great vigor and the other players were excellent, the conflict is far more universal than a mere question of white people refusing a Negro a job of tending an adding machine which he has been trained to work brilliantly in the Army.

It is a pity that "Jeb," with all its eloquence and theatrical excitement, did not make the grade, but it was a play which I would not have missed.

'Jeb', The Latest Promise For Broadway, Premiers In Philly

Chicago Defender, Ill.
2-9-46

PHILADELPHIA. — Herman Shumlin's production of Robert Ardrey's "Jeb" will open a ten-day engagement on February 7 at the Locust Street Theatre here, with a New York opening to follow later in the month.

"Jeb" is the story of Jeb Turner, 22-year-old Negro who returns from three years' service in the Pacific with a Silver Star, a Purple Heart and an aluminum leg to replace the one he left behind. Jeb was a southern field hand before induction, but the army has taught him a trade—as adding machine operator—and he wants to follow it up in civilian life. To his way of thinking this is a simple matter, consisting merely of demonstrating his skill at the job. But he is reckoning without the prejudices, the superstitions, the hatreds of his home town.

For his cast Herman Shumlin has chosen a fine group of players headed by Ossie Davis, himself recently discharged from the Army Medical Corps after 32 months overseas, in the title role. Davis, who played formerly with the Rose McClendon Players, will make his first Broadway appearance in "Jeb." Other prominent parts will be played by Laura Bowman, Ruby Dee, Wardell Saunders (remembered from "Native Son"), Maurice Ellis, Morris McKenney (for three years the Noah of "The Green Pastures"), P. J. Sidney and Carolyn Hill Stewart.

"Jeb" is now rehearsing under the direction of Mr. Shumlin, who has presented such vigorous plays as "The Little Foxes," "The Corn Is Green," "Watch on the Rhine" and "The Searching Wind." The author, Robert Ardrey, is best known for his "Thunder Rock," a drama devoted to the eternal fight for democracy which ran straight through the blitz of 1940 in London.

'Jeb,' Another Drama On Race Issue, Hits Broadway Snag

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

BULLETIN

"Jeb," a victim of the critics' attack will close after Thursday performance, it was announced Monday morning.

By EARL CONRAD

NEW YORK—"Jeb," a powerful play which focuses attention on the No. 1 problem of the returned Negro GI opened this week at the Martin Beck Theatre to a highly sympathetic first-night audience: everybody was enthused but the critics as usual.

Whether New York theatre-going opinion will reject the critics as it did in the case of "Deep Are The Roots," I don't know, but this play, like almost every social play to hit Broadway has been handled as if it were leprosy.

This is not just a play of white prejudice against the Negro; it is not just an indictment of white supremacy; it is an attack upon the national setup of free enterprise which guarantees unemployment and insecurity to all—regardless of color. "Jeb" strikes at the fundamental fact of the caste system: its economic origin: its origin in the struggle of all for jobs, the consequent competition, and the end-results of competition.

"Jeb" is a heroic character. Played wonderfully well by a new actor named Ossie Davis, Jeb gets out of the service a hero. In Harlem, before returning to his home in Louisiana, he gets rolled by a few Negroes in a cafe. The critics tried to indicate this was unreal, but the Defender carried a story recently which described exactly that incident occurring to a trusting GI unconservant with Big-town's snares. Jeb returns to his home town desirous of getting employed as an adding machine operator. He learned how to run such a machine in the war, but he finds this is a "white man's job." His fight to get situated in what he wants to do and what the war has taught him to do results in much conflict. He is beaten up, returns to New York. Finally he decides to return to the South and fight it out there on the land and in the town which is his.

It is author Robert Ardrey's right to have Jeb make this decision, though thousands of people (and I agree) see migration to the North as a major need right now. This is an old and debatable issue and life has not given us the answers.

Def 3-2-46

"Jeb" Brought Two Great Actors Together

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

OSSIE DAVIS AND LAURA BOWMAN FORM LASTING FRIENDSHIP IN SHORT-LIVED PLAY IN WHICH BOTH WERE STARS. THEY PART WISHING EACH OTHER WHOLESOME SUCCESS. 3-30-46

NEW YORK.—On Thursday Feb. 21, a new play made its debut on Broadway at the Martin Beck Theatre. The critics, while they differed on views, weren't too kind and the play closed exactly one week later, Feb. 28, after only nine performances.

The play, of course, was "Jeb," written by Robert Ardrey and staged by Herman Shumlin, a stab against Southern bigotry and race prejudice.

While "Jeb" was important to everybody who had a hand in its production, as all Broadway plays are, it had a particular significance to two people.

For one, it meant either a bright future or perhaps a terrific setback in a difficult and glamorous field. For the other, either a great comeback or slip back among the mass of forgotten stars.

Youth and Experience

The two people were Ossie Davis, star of the show, an ex-GI and making his first Broadway appearance, and Laura Bowman, who supported him in the role of his mother, a veteran of the theatre after five years' absence.

Ossie Davis, born in Cogsdell, Ga., 25 years ago, had two years at Howard University. He had his beginning with the Rose McClendon players (a protege of Dick Campbell), in "Joy Exceeding Glory," a comedy about Father Divine; "On Strivers Row," "Yellow," "Booker T. Washington," "Gospel Train" and in "Black Woman in White."

Davis spent four years in the Army Medical Corps (three of them at an airfield in Liberia). Like Jeb, in the play, he learned a trade in the Army—that of surgical technician—but after separation he preferred to return to the theatre. 3-30-46

Began Career in Musical

Laura Bowman sang her way into the theatre in a musical known as "In Dahomey," a Bert Williams-George Walker vehicle for which the late Will Marian Cook did most of the composing and arranging, and has remained there ever since. She spent ten years in Europe, appearing in Paris, Berlin and Moscow, fifteen years with the famous Lafayette Players in Harlem.

Among her recent plays were Lulu Volmer's "Sentinels," Owen Davis's "Jezebel" with Miriam Hopkins, and Arthur Hopkins' production of "Plumes in the Dust" with Henry Hull. The past five years found her in California teaching dramatics, taking parts in experimental plays and making occasional appearances on the Amos 'n Andy radio show.

The critics were kind to both. Of Davis, one said, ". . . is easy, natural, believable and genuinely affecting . . ." About Bowman, the most critical of all critics, in New York, wrote, ". . . is as moving as she can be . . ."

Part With Embrace

But as they parted that Thursday night, each embraced the other, wishing one another everything sincere and wholesome for success. Laura Bowman, the veteran, was convinced that Davis, the youngster, was a natural and had a great future in front of him.

Ossie Davis, the upstart, thanked one of America's greatest character actresses for her experience and ability in bringing out the naturalness he injected into the role of Jeb, and he went away

Ossie Davis Laura Bowman

convinced, too, that she had many more years in the busines of theatricals. 3-30-46

Curiously enough, Miss Bowman received a call the next day to begin rehearsing for the new play, "So Near, So Far" which opened in Washington Monday, Mar. 25. Davis was signed the following day by John Wildberg, producer of "Anna Lucasta," to a good contract for a role in the Chicago version of the vehicle, the longest-run hit with an all-colored cast in the history of the American stage.

SOME CLOSING THOUGHTS BY "JEB'S" PRODUCER.

PM 3-10-46-Sun. New York,

Stimulated by the N.Y. fracas raised by the Messrs. Harold Clurman, Elia Kazan and Maxwell Anderson over the untimely end of Anderson's play, Truckline Cafe, we remembered that Robert Ardrey's Jeb, another serious play, had also closed in haste--and at a cost of $75,000 to its backers--after receiving bad reviews. Another of those melancholy investigations into the state of the American theater seemed indicated, so we betook ourselves to the lair of *Jeb's* producer, Herman Shumlin, in the Selwyn Theater building.

PM

"Mr. Shumlin," we said in our most earnest manner, "why was a sincere play on an important subject by a talented author, which was well produced and which stirred many of the people who saw it, unable to run during the best season in recent theatrical history?

PM

"If you mean by all that, 'Why did I close *Jeb?*'" Shumlin replied in a tone of mild exasperation, "there is only one reason: It needed to do $12,000 a week to break even; not enough people bought tickets for even a small part of that. I would very much prefer not to say how much we did do.

New York, N.Y.

"I could have asked the actors to take salary cuts," he continued. "But that would have saved maybe $1000 a week, which wouldn't even have begun to make up the loss. I could have put on a publicity campaign, I suppose, but nothing in my experience makes me believe it would have done enough good. If I had had a star there would have been a better chance, but *Jeb* was the kind of a play that didn't have a star part.

New York, N.Y.

"I tried to sell benefits before it opened, but organizations don't want to buy a play until they're sure it's a hit. The fact is a serious play is not like a musical or a comedy or a play with a star, which always have some chance of getting by. The public needs to be enlisted to see a serious play. If you want to know why the public didn't buy tickets, the arrow points just one way: at the reviews." 3-10-46 Sun.

The opening night audience, Shumlin told us, had given *Jeb* a considerable ovation, and after the show large numbers of people had told him that they had been very much moved. Then the reviews appeared and the game was up. 3-10-46

We asked him if, as a producer of serious plays, he didn't feel he was more and more being pushed out of a job. "Not particularly," he said moodily. "Things are no worse than they've always been." Sun.

When asked his opinion of the *Truckline Cafe* controversy, Shumlin pondered a while. "I think it's senseless to attack the critics for their judgment," he said. "But I do agree with Mr. Anderson's statement that to have a great theater, you have to have great critics."

Principals in New Interracial Play

66A

Grover Burgess (left) and Ossie Davis in a scene from Herman Shumlin's production of Robert Ardrey's "Jeb," in which Davis plays the title role of Jeb Turner, a recently discharged GI, and currently showing at the Locust Street Theatre, Philadelphia. Letft to right, insets, are Ruby Dee, Maurice Ellis and Laura Bowman, also featured in the play which makes its Broadway debut at the Martin Beck Theatre, Feb. 20.

"Jeb," a Provocative Drama, Pulls No Punches on Southern Bigotry and Bias

Afro American Baltimore, Md

Sat 2-16-46

By E. B. REA

PHILADELPHIA

Running parallel to "Deep Are the Roots," current Broadway success, "Jeb," a drama debuting here Thursday night at the Locust Stret Theatre, is a provocative play posing a post-war problem.

THE CAST

Ossie Davis, Clay Clement, Laura Bowman, Ruby Dee, Frank M. Thomas, Wardell Saunders, Maurice Ellis, Grover Burgess, Morris McKenny, P. J. Sidney, Percy Verwayen, Carolyn Hill Stewart, Grace McTarnahan and Edwin Cushman.

Play by Robert Ardrey; produced and staged by Herman Shumlin; setting by Jo Meilziner.

"Jeb," as with "Deep Are the Roots," with its mixed cast, pulls no punches in its attack upon southern bigotry and race prejudice, but evades the issue of race miscegenation which is the central theme of the latter play.

Both productions deal with the plight and attempted readjustment of returning colored service men, decorated for heroism, to their old civilian life in the Deep South.

Exciting in Its Plot

"Jeb" is a play about 22-year-old Jeb Turner, played by Ossie Davis, a former member of the Rose McClendon Players, and a native of Valdosta, Ga., who dominates the drama which has its setting in a mythical town in Louisiana.

Exciting in its plot, "Jeb" in a tense and moving way tells of what confronts the colored veteran who has built up false hopes of a better, a more decent life by the deceptive words of statesmen, politicians, clergymen, and those who pay lip service to democracy.

On every hand he encounters frustrations, evasions and intimidations. Even like "Deep Are the Roots" and "Strange Fruit," both with social implications, the play has a threatened outlet in mob violence, but in this instance stops short of lynching. Sat 2-16-46

Old Job Problem

There is nothing racially reflectory in the play which is free of sentimentality, compromise and interracial romanticism. Jeb's crime is that he returns to his home town with ambitions set on a white man's job, operating an adding machine in a mill, because in the Army he had learned the trade.

He had returned home after three years campaigning in the South Pacific, there he lost a leg, won the Silver Star and the Purple Heart, feeling that there is a richer life ahead of him and he could marry his girl, Libby, played by Ruby Dee, follow his trade, live in comfort and dignity in the community he loves so much.

But the friendly and "tolerant" white men he knew, including the mill owner, the banker and the clergyman, however, only saw things according to their inborn traditions and rebuffed on every hand, Jeb had to flee North ahead of a mob to save his life.

Still Cherished South

Languishing in his temporary home in a city in the North, after being unable to circumvent age-old hatreds, prejudices and taboos, Jeb, still eager to cancel out all past indignities, expresses determination to return to the South as the play ends.

Laura Bowman turns in a good role as the sympathetic and understanding mother, while others are also outstanding, particularly Clay Clement, white mill owner, who in his "tolerant" moments is "powerless" to help the youth during his frustrations. Sat 2-16-46

The professional talent in "Jeb" shows less emotional restraint and more maturity than that of "Deep Are the Roots" or "Strange Fruit."

While Herman Shumlin has produced a splendidly devised arama, there is room for indecision as to its purpose, which was not evidenced in the performance witnessed by this reviewer.

The play is honest in its portrayal, the characters compelling. Other than bringing out the present, well-known post-war problem, as it seriously effects a minority group, it reveals nothing to give thoughtful people new hope in a land of unequal opportunities.

However, it is good entertainment but carries little to convince one that colored Americans are not alone in their fight against fascism an dineffectual "liberalism," especially in the South.

Laura Bowman's play flops

Los Angeles Tribune California

Sat 3-9-46

NEW YORK—"Jeb", the Robert Ardrey play Laura Bowman deserted Los Angeles for, was picked to pieces by the critics after its recent Broadway debut and closed down after one week.

Returning to the stage after five years in California, Miss Bowman played the worried mother of a veteran (Ossie Davis, a veteran in real life) who searches for a job and finds only rebuffs because of his race.

Miss Bowman's theatrical career began almost a half century ago when she sang in a musical called "In Dahomey". She spent 10 years in Europe, appearing in Paris, Berlin, and Moscow, and 15 years with Harlem's Lafayette Players.

Her recent plays include Lulu Volmer's "Sentinels"; Owen Davis' "Jezebel", with Miriam Hopkins; and Arthur Hopkins' "Plumes in the Dust", with Henry Hull. During her stay in California, she taught dramatics, took parts in experimental plays, and occasionally appeared on the "Amos and Andy" radio show. Sat 3-9-46

The day after "Jeb" closed, Miss Brown received a call to begin rehearsals for a new play, "So Near, So Far", which is to open in Washington Mar. 25.

"Jeb" was staged by Herman Shumlin and offered at the Martin Beck theatre.

Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee in "Jeb."

DRAMA OF NEGRO VET POSES HOME FRONT FIGHT

By SAMUEL SILLEN

Jeb, the new play by Robert Ardrey, explores the vital problem of a Negro veteran who returns to an America in which the battle for democracy has still to be won. The human materials of this play have the raw, compelling quality of real life. The social clash here depicted has the vivid immediacy of Harry Raymond's stories of the Freeport murders.

It is good to welcome another Broadway production that registers this grimmest perversion of American life, this Nazi-like oppression that rots value, institutions, people. Ardrey has protested against anti-Negro discrimination with sincerity and conviction. He has not succeeded in knitting his materials and ideas into the powerful drama implicit in the issue.

Jeb Turner, the title character, was a Louisiana farm hand before the war. After four years in the Pacific he returns with a Silver Star and Purple Heart. One of his legs has been shattered. At 22 he returns filled with his dream of a new life. Having mastered the use of an adding machine in the Army, he has a trade for the first time. He will get a job in the mill in his small Louisiana town; he will marry Libby, support his widowed mother.

A DREAM EXPLODED

That simple dream, little enough reward for his service to the country, is exploded as the play progresses. The mill manager, a "liberal" Southerner, buckles under the pressure of the local banker and other "solid citizens" of the community. A Negro must not have a "white man's job." So Jeb is framed, accused of raping a white woman, his house burned down, his head bashed in. Driven up north, he will return again to the South, his homeland, retaining the hope that somehow, somewhere, there will be whites who are different.

With this valid theme, Ardrey has projected the terror of Jeb's sweetheart Libby, the destructive self-division of the liberal mill-manager, the hypocritical piety of the white minister and the fascist mentality of the banker. Jeb himself is treated with sympathy and dignity.

LOOSE DRAMA

The playwright, however, has given us a loose, episodic drama which approaches climactic force at several points but recedes without leaving a full impact on the audience. His greatest problem is the failure to infuse Jeb with a sufficient degree of consciousness; he remains virtually unchanged by the end of the play; his decisions (entering the white man's church, for instance) have an unconvincing quality.

The play gets off to a false start in the first scene, where Jeb is drugged and robbed by Negroes in a bar up North. This scene, which does not register in Jeb's mind at all, merely confuses the central issue of the drama, and Ardrey's return to it at the end heightens the effect of contrivance.

At the same time there is hard-hitting at the Bourbon mentality and firm indignation on the whole job issue. There is a moving scene in the mill-shed where Jeb proves to himself that he can still run an adding machine. The treatment of the Turner family has warmth, and there is an essential clarity in posing the devastating contradictions of a Jimcrow society.

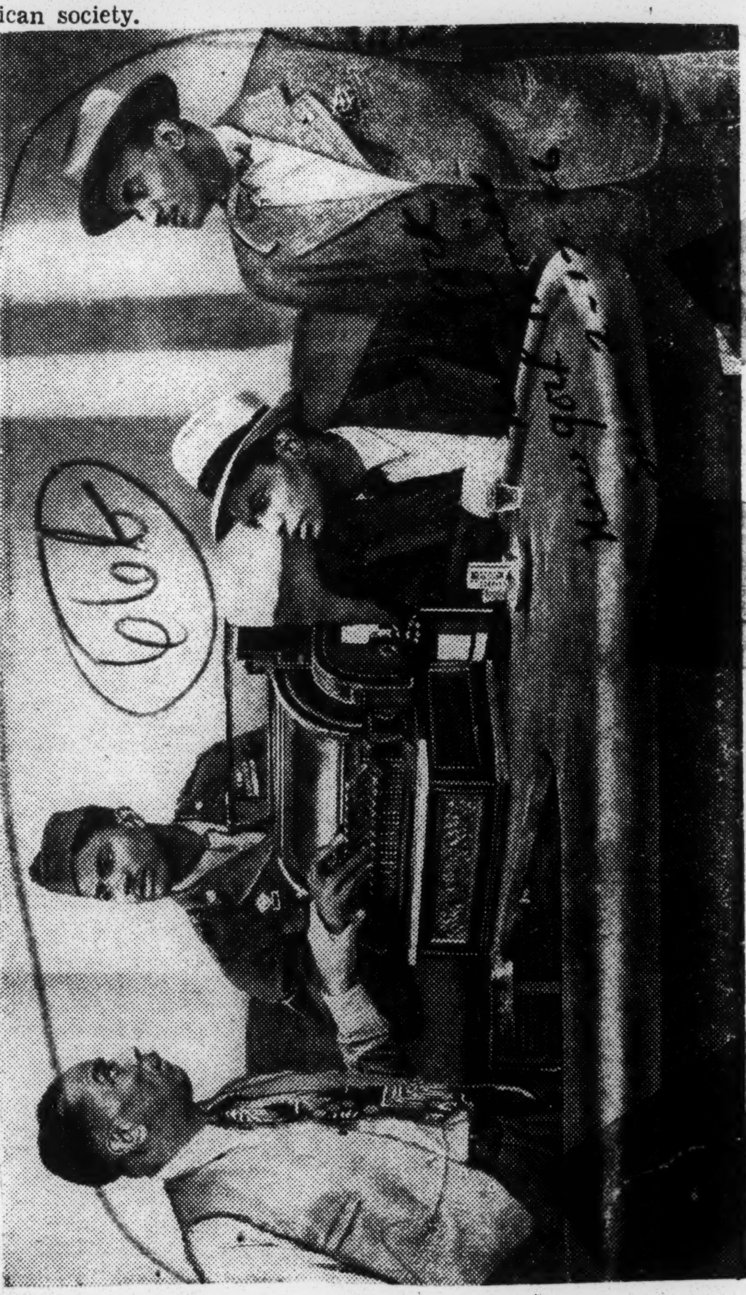
The play is superior to the bungling **Strange Fruit**, but lacks the dramatic firmness of **Deep Are The Roots.**

BASIC INDIGNATION

In his staging, Herman Shumlin tends to make over-obvious such features as the bar-prostitute's callousness, Libby's shivering, the mill-manager's nervous abruptness, so that contrived features of the script are heightened. Nevertheless, Mr. Shumlin's production has a basic social indignation that is warmly appreciated. Jo Mielziner's sets are very effective.

Ossie Davis (Jeb) gives one of the finest performances of the season. He is a mobile, expressive actor who completely wins the audience from his first entrance. There will be a separate story about him on this page tomorrow. The large supporting cast is excellent. As the mill-manager Santos Ortega communicates a tormented conscience; as Jeb's mother, Laura Bowman suggests the pathos of her situation; as Jeb's friend Julian, Maurice Ellis gives us a sense of smoldering rebellion which never bursts into flame. Libby is played by Ruby Dee; the banker by Frank M. Thomas.

The play, despite its very real limitations, is a welcome addition to the growing body of drama that seeks to deal honestly with the reality of Jimcrow, the most intolerably rotten feature of American society.



Graphic House

In the usual order, Morris McKenney, Ossie Davis, P. J. Sidney and Wardell Saunders in "Jeb," a topical play based on the problem of the returning Negro service man. At the Martin Beck, Thursday.

fredi says..

Amsterdam News

New York, N.Y.

Sat 3-9-46

WITHIN THE SHORT SPACE of two weeks, Broadway has seen two plays, **Jeb** and **Truckline Cafe**, closed—**Jeb** with nine performances to its credit and the latter with twelve. There is much to lament in the hurried dismissal of these two plays, for both attempted to deal with problems facing the people of America and the world today. Not the least considera- tion in lamenting the closing is the fact that a total of 54 actors, 14 of whom are Negro, were thrown out of work after four weeks of rehearsal.

Jeb, written by Robert Ardrey, a comparatively new play- wright, elected to try dramatizing the question of job discrimina- tion against Negro veterans, and in Herman Shumlin he found a sympathetic producer who also wanted to turn his talents and production facilities over to a dramatic warning against bigotry and injustice. It would have been much simpler and certainly less risky for both Ardrey and Shumlin to do a frivolous comedy which would have nothing more than entertainment value.

TRUCKLINE CAFE, written by Maxwell Anderson, one of the top playwrights of this generation, with several of his plays prize winners, felt a responsibility to the people living in these chaotic times and set about writing a play which would point up what has happened to us because of war, what we must do to pick up the threads of life and how it can be done.

So what happens to these two playwrights and those backers who are willing to risk their money in order to get a message of importance over the footlights? Granted that neither of these attempts were in the main technically good. *Truckline Cafe* certainly left much to be desired from as proficient a playwright as Maxwell Anderson. But to those critics who with a stroke of their pens dismissed one or both of these efforts with, an attitude of, *"the worst play I have seen since I have been in the reviewing business"* (Chapman of the News) or *"Mr. Anderson has gummed things up as only some one can who shows neither real skill nor a saving slickness, who has lost both a sense of the truth and a feeling for his trade* (Kronenberger, PM), I would say: *They are encouraging a cold, sophisticated, empty theatre technique and at the same time discouraging the kind of drama that can be a directive to an understanding of and solution to problems facing us today.*

* * *

THIS COLUMN agrees, if not entirely, certainly in part, with the statement which appeared in Friday's papers by the pro- ducers of *Truckline Cafe*, Harold Clurman and Elia Kazan. The latter is director of *Deep Are the Roots*. The statement says in part: *"Our theatre is strangled in a bottleneck. That bottleneck is made up of a group of men who are hired to report the events of our stage and who more and more are acquiring powers which, as a group, they are not qualified to exercise—either by their training or by their taste. . . . There is a blackout of all taste except the taste of these men."*

This theory certainly applies to the production of *Jeb*. That production went into the Martin Beck theatre for three weeks (this theatre has been booked for *St. Louis Woman)*, with a ten- tative agreement for another theatre after that time. But the shortage of legitimate theatres (movie producers of third rate movies have most of the theatres on long-term leases) make it almost impossible to rent a house for a play after it has received the kind of notices given *Jeb*. Consequently, the producers of *Jeb* had little choice in the matter even though they might have been willing to operate at a loss until the public had an oppor- tunity to show its interest or the lack of it at the box-office.

* * *

THERE IS THIS MUCH TO BE SAID for the daily critics: They seldom, if ever, have an opportunity to digest a play after seeing it. They rush off to their typewriters and put on paper their first reactions to what they have seen, without time for analytical judgment, and, as might be expected, the results are oftimes harsh, with a lack of understanding.

However, this does not exonerate entirely those critics who have become *blase* and super-critical of the theatre and its works. The critic, too, has a responsibility to the people who live in these confused times. *What they seem to forget or overlook altogether is the fact that, while the commercial theatre is not actually called an experimental theatre, it is just that. Each time a play is produced, it is an experiment, and a darned expensive one at that. Criticism is a very necessary part of the theatre's efforts, but integrity of purpose should always be taken into consideration when a work is criticized.*

Sat 3-9-46

Truckline Cafe and *Jeb* were written with honest intent, nor can it be denied that all connected with both productions did not know their plays would be more difficult to sell to the public than a straight play.

It would be well for the drama critics to give some encourage- ment to those few people in the theatre who have the courage to buck the popular tide of amusement in order that the pioneer trail to a better world for all may be realized.

Broadway Still Waits For Play By Negro.....

"Jeb" Fails As Did "Strange Fruit"

The Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Va.

By DON DE LEIGHBUR

"JEB" CLOSES, BUT DOOR IS STILL OPEN TO NEGRO PLAYWRIGHT WHO CAN DO A GOOD INTERRACIAL DRAMA

NEW YORK—By the time you read this, the play "Jeb," will have gone the way of "Strange Fruit," and Broadway will be continuing its long wait for a play about the Negro in modern life from the pen of a Negro.

Sat. 3-9-46

The failure of "Jeb" to click was the common failure—it wasn't good theatre; it was a bad play, it was ridiculous in its melodrama and the exaggeration would exceed the requirements of burlesque. Two attempts to promote plays concerning white discrimination against Negroes have thus failed, while one, "Deep Are the Roots," sails merrily and happily on to an all-time hit.

CONTRADICTION OF FACT

"Strange Fruit" was in bad taste, some who saw it contend. "Strange Fruit" featured a glaring contra- diction of fact in attempting to portray a pretty young Negro girl graduate of a southern college as vulgar and low enough to forget all the principles of racial dignity and honor they all receive in our colleges in the South and make a doormat of herself for a ne'er do- well son of a prominent white fam- ily.

Sat. 3-9-46

The implication was that it is common that such relation- ships exist and that the more cultured the Negro girl is,. the more apt she is to throw away herself and her race for the alleged satisfaction of being the "behind the house" para- mour of some white man.

CRITICS BITTER

Critics, who know the racial score, were bitter that a play would be allowed to misinform audiences that the average educated south- ern Negro girl would give herself away without price tag or without reason to a white man.

They said it is the other way around; the white girl of breeding and family is more commonly found sharing secret intimacies with houseboys and yardboys than the Negro girl who of the sexes, is usually the most bitter about in- terracial affairs, especially in the South, unless, of course, she has by inclination or education, decided to make such affairs a "buisness."

"JEB" INEPT IN PRACTICE

Where "Deep Are the Roots" opened the door to saneness in ap- proaching the racial dilemma now facing post-war America, "Strange Fruit" tried to close it subtly play- ing upon the dormant prejudices and hatreds common in the aver- age white breast. "Jeb," while its purpose may have been laudible in principle, was inept in practice and served only to distort a noble theme, thereby leading eventually to the discrediting of the theme that the race question can and will be solved.

NEED GOOD THEATRE

While it is inevitable that our performers need work and cannot afford to see too many vehicles flop, it is to our racial interest that these vehicles be at least good theatre, and to murn the demise of those which are bed theatre is not crying over spilt milk, but is wast- ing tears over things that should not have been in the first place.

James Gow and Arnaud d'- Usseau, writers of "Deep Are The Roots," luckily hit upon the right theme and the right time and right way to put it before the public. Their suc- cess mirrors that which will come to the forward-looking, forward-thinking Negro play- wright who makes up his mind to crash a field in which Ne- gro playwrights are pitifully few.

Sat. 3-9-46

No white man knows what a Ne- gro really thinks. He is spending his time and money trying to learn. Once in a while, as in "Deep Are The Roots," he gets an inkling that may be translated into a con- crete presentation of a phase of Negro thought.

The Negro, however, knows what is what and should he write it, honestly, carefully and in the proper form, fame and fortune are his without question. The serious drama is the highest type of endeavor for our writers interested in the theatre. Some should come forward and do something def- inite about it.

After a week's delay, "Jeb" will start practicing today. The chief character in the Robert Ardrey drama is a Negro soldier who re- turns to his Southern home after three years of service in the Pa- cific. That role will be portrayed by Ossie Davis (a newcomer) in a company that includes Santos Ortega, Laura Bowman, Geri Bryan, Frank M. Thomas, Morris McKenney, Grover Burgess and St. Clair Bayfield. A revised pre- Broadway route now calls for a ten-day Philadelphia engagement, beginning Feb. 7. Herman Shum- lin is the producer and director.

What the fortune of "Jeb" might have been if another play about a Negro returning South had not already taken hold of the Broadway imagination is a question. In "Deep Are the Roots" the situation is more or less the same; the resolution of the dramatic situation is smarter as stagecraft and falser where the truth of the material is concerned. In both these plays the soldier comes back and runs into the local prejudice, the Southern race problem, with its injustice —an injustice that, we should gather from these dramas, is confined solely to the South. "Jeb" has various serious advantages, so far as the truth goes, over its rival: first, the hero loves the South and means to stay there—it is his home, even the food there is what he likes to eat; second, he will return there as soon as the fifth act releases him, for the South is where he wants to be, no matter what wrongs there are. New Republic

But who could write a rattling editorial about such a creature, or, by the same token, a last act? "Deep Are the Roots" keeps all that straight; it has the cheap solution of the footlights for a cheap audience. "Jeb" presents, too, a much truer picture of the Southern theme, Negro and all; for the last act of the other play is absurd to any Southerner, though all the clichés and all the prejudice and wrongs have been freely admitted by him. "Jeb" also presents the motif of the "quality" and the "poor whites" in their relations to the Negro, a theme better understood even by the Negroes than by an average Broadway audience, for whom the difference between quality and trash has a wholly different implication. Mon 3-11-46

It is a pity, therefore, that such a play as "Jeb" should be damned by the reviewers and so swiftly called off, while such smooth rubbish as "Deep Are the Roots" goes sailing on in the box-office reports. It is a pity too that such a promising young actor as Mr. Ossie Davis should for the nonce be thrown away; as a performance, his Jeb was at least technically adequate, above average, and had, besides, fine vivid qualities of feeling, bright, warm response and a certain touching sweetness that any Southerner would recognize as belonging to the Negro range of feeling.

For this drama of human pain and inescapable misery of deep-set conflict, Mr. Jo Mielziner has designed settings that I gather have been well praised. A clever and glowing setting for the café where the Negro soldier is robbed of his money comes first, then various Southern settings—the mother's cabin and so on. In a small way they are about as right dramatically for this play as certain Ziegfeld Follies settings would have been for "Everyman" or a drama of the Crucifixion. This did not bother the audience I saw, however. Suffering, problems, history, wreckage—they sat there well fed and cocktailed, saying it did not come off, did it, and have you seen "Deep Are the Roots"? and have you phoned Sid about supper?

Meantime there is the Civil Service in Washington telling me that only two hotels on their list take Negroes, Haitians, or even Latinos from Brazil, etc., and six restaurants; and that something of the same holds true in Boston and Cambridge. For some reason, however, no plays seem to exploit this race material. Mon 3-11-46

Meantime, one technical point, a permanent item, remains, which is that the great final failure of such plays is that the images for their violent motifs, tragic and strong, are supplied already in Southern life more or less, but the last scenes are not. At that point the dramatist can only jabber. Hence the concluding artistic debacle and the rubbish as social record.

STARK YOUNG

THE PROBLEM PLAY

New York Times

By Using Two Methods in Its Approach, 'Jeb' Succeeded in Neither

New York, N.Y.

Sun. 3-3-46

By LEWIS NICHOLS

ROBERT ARDREY'S "Jeb" closed last Thursday after playing only nine performances. Its failure at the box office was complete, although audiences out of town looked upon it with favor and gave encouragement. Probably it does not deserve the crowning indignity of all, to be called a succés d'estime, for "Jeb" was not a good play and the public which went elsewhere was within its right. Yet it was not a totally bad play either, a play written in haste and produced only to pick up a chance Saturday night penny. Mr. Ardrey wrote it out of anger over racial intolerance, Herman Shumlin directed and the cast played it sincerely. Some of the reviewers liked it, others praised many of its moments; the opening night audience seemed, on the whole, not unmoved. Plays have built long runs on much less, yet "Jeb" failed immediately. The course of a public to the box office often is as inexplicable as that of the lemmings to the sea.

Several possible causes have been advanced, but most of them seem to lack full validity. "Jeb" was a problem play, in that it dealt with the relationship of the Negro to the white, yet problem plays have run before and in "Deep Are the Roots" there is almost a twin brother. It was said that "Jeb" came in as the third of a series, after both "Deep Are the Roots" and "Strange Fruit" had treated the same subject, and found a market already surfeited. Experience has shown, however, that a good play usually will succeed despite surrounding circumstances or rivalry. The most probable explanation is that the public again showed itself less inclined to attend a "problem play" blindly, than to attend a comedy; the play of thought and ideas must be better than fair. Comedies with worse initial treatment have run for months, but "Jeb" played nine performances. Sun. 3-3-46

Two Methods

The basic failure seems to have been in "Jeb's" inability to decide which of two lines it wished to follow. There can be problem plays of the loud, shouting, cymbal-clanging order, and those whose approach is quieter, more thoughtful. "Deep Are the Roots" belongs to the first class, and in their preface to the published version, James Gow and Arnaud d'Usseau rise briskly to the defense of the method. They had been taken to task for introducing a love affair between a Negro boy and a white girl, which was a specialization, and for again offering the hoary melodramatic incident of a false charge of watch stealing. In their defense they advocate the special, and so far as "Deep Are the Roots" is concerned, they are right. But their play is all of the same method; it holds interest through its melodrama and roars along at top speed over a good many rather obvious holes.

To Melodrama

"Jeb" at first tried to be a character study, going deeper into the question of race relationship and seeking to avoid obvious stacking of the cards. As the play opened, Jeb had just returned from the wars, and in the first scene was shown being drugged and robbed in a cafe operated, not by whites, as would be the case in the first classification, but by those of his own color. He then went back home to get a job, and there found other troubles waiting for him. In the Army he had learned a trade, that of operating an adding machine, but such labor is skilled and so was reserved for white men. Up through the time Jeb had applied for his machine job and had been refused, Mr. Ardrey had the makings of an excellent and honest play; but thereafter he changed from his first style to that of melodrama and the obviously theatrical. Many of the whites became caricatures, Jeb was beaten, Negro cottages were burned. An honest beginning ended in a striving for effect, and having been broken between two styles, "Jeb" became effective in neither. Sun. 3-3-46

The relationship of white and Negro needs a great play, and one day, no doubt, it will have it. "Deep Are the Roots" shows one method, and as an example of a means with definite limitations, it is of good caliber. "Jeb," at the beginning, started to show another. When it changed attitude it lost not only its best quality but its public. Unlike the light comedy or the musical show, the problem play appeals to those who are interested in the discussion, and they must be served more carefully than their light-hearted friends. They go to the theatre with a purpose, and not just drop in to get off the streets. They insist on something better than fair, and a hybrid never goes higher than that.

FROM THE DRAMA MAILBAG

The New York Times
New York, N.Y.
Sun. 3-17-46

Mr. Shumlin Takes the Stand

To the Drama Editor:

AS the producer of "Jeb," Robert Ardrey's play, I feel obligated to reply to your reviewer's article in a recent Sunday's TIMES. "Jeb" closed after nine performances, and your reviewer, attempting to analyze the causes for this, came to the conclusion that the public did not respond at the box office because of faulty craftsmanship on the part of the author.

There is no value I can see, things being what they are in the theatre and its circle of critics, in arguing with your reviewer's low estimate of the play, but I think it imperative to point out that he and his colleagues are responsible for the lack of public interest in "Jeb." Your reviewer and the other men who "cover" the opening nights wrote reviews of "Jeb" which discouraged any latent desire the public might have had to see it. Sun. 3-17-46

The only contact the public has with the theatre is through the press. When a play like "Jeb" opens, the public is informed about it by the critics. There is no other method of attracting public interest. There have been plays which have overcome critical disapproval, but these plays have been fortified with music and dancing and funny comedians or famous stars or sexiness. The serious play, the play which attacks a serious problem, must have critical approval at the outset or it will not make the grade. Your reviewer knows this as well as I do, and more or less says the same thing in his article, but I resent his shifting responsibility to the public, which has not seen the play and takes his word for its quality or lack of quality.

It is my belief that the critic bears a large responsibility, larger, I think, than your reviewer or most other critics seem willing to shoulder. They are the ones who set the standards of the theatre by their power of life or death. They both guide the public and set the guide posts for the theatre as an art; their approval or disapproval has much effect upon what plays are written and produced. It has always been remarkable to me that the theatre reviewers are so lenient with the plays which are meant only to entertain—and I have nothing against entertainment—and set their backs so rigidly against the slightest flaw in the play which attempts to develop the theatre both as an art and a medium of social expression.

The public never had a chance to see "Jeb" and decide whether it was good or bad, and yet it was written and produced in the conviction that what it had to say was of the most vital importance to that public. It is my belief that it said it well, and I am shocked that the majority of the critics did not feel as I did the importance of turning the public's attention to the problem it concerned itself with, but it is useless to argue that point. I think it is necessary, however, and I hope useful, to point out to your reviewer that he and his colleagues, as the public's agents—and I repeat it—are responsible for the public's lack of interest in "Jeb." Sun. 3-17-46

HERMAN SHUMLIN.

New York, N. Y.

Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee play a returning vet and his girl in Robert Ardrey's *Jeb*, opening Thursday at the Martin Beck.

CRITICAL and AMUSEMENTS

Broadway Report:

From 'Thunder Rock' to 'Jeb'

Tues. 2-19-46

One day in 1938, Robert Benchley happened to meet Robert Ardrey, whose new play, *How to Get Tough About It*, Benchley had just reviewed for the *New Yorker*. Ardrey was noticeably downcast.

Robert Ardrey

"I liked your play," Benchley said.

"Huh," Ardrey snapped back, "it's closing Saturday."

"Impossible," Benchley said, "it's a very good show."

"What the hell," Ardrey replied, "you told your readers it was a very good show, but some day Ardrey—that very promising young playwright—would write a better one. So they're all waiting to buy tickets for the better one."

The situation of the playwright who is "promising" is not new to 37-year-old, Chicago-born Robert Ardrey. Just 10 years ago this month his first play, *Star Spangled*, brought him into the limelight as a young man likely to do important things in the theater. It was followed by *How to Get Tough About It*, which he wrote on a Guggenheim fellowship. *Casey Jones* and *Thunder Rock*, for which he was given the first Sidney Howard Memorial Award. Throughout the critics maintained their great interest in Ardrey, but "some day" kept recurring in their reviews.

"And my plays all ran 23 performances," Ardrey recalled.

Ardrey hopes that it will be different with *Jeb*, his first play in six years, which Herman Shumlin will present at the Martin Beck Thursday evening. Tues 2-19-46

"*Jeb*," he said, "is about a Negro soldier who has learned to run an adding machine in the Army. He has lost a leg in the Pacific but he doesn't feel bad about the leg because he feels he's exchanged it for a trade. He comes back to his home in the South with the faith that if he, a Negro, has learned so much in the war, white people must have learned something too."

Ardrey said that, unlike *Deep Are the Roots* and *Strange Fruit*, *Jeb* was written from the Negro point of view. How did he presume to write from the Negro point of view? we asked.

"I almost don't know what to say," he replied slowly. "I've lived in the South, and I'm married to a Southerner, but beyond that, I really don't know. I think if a writer starts asking himself that question, he'll never start writing a play. It's just one of those things. You set out to do it; it's a hell of a job of imagination, or projecting yourself. But you just feel you have to do it.

"Why did I have to do it? Because I feel the story ought to be told. And if a white man can do it, he ought to try. It's almost like anti-Semitism—if a man feels he can write about it, and the circumstances of his life have brought him close to it, then he ought to try, even if he is a Gentile."

Ardrey, a fresh-faced, youthful-looking fellow who might still pass for a student on a college campus, picked an adding machine as the focus of his play because he once learned how to run one at the University of Chicago.

Ardrey worked as a statistician, spent all his free time writing under the tutelage of Thornton Wilder. They met when Wilder came to teach at Chicago in 1929. After almost six years, they decided that Ardrey was ready to make his professional bow with *Star Spangled*.

In 1938 *How to Get Tough About It* and *Casey Jones* opened within 10 days of each other. They closed quickly but managed to bring Ardrey several Hollywood offers.

"There's nothing like two simultaneous failures on the stage," Ardrey said. "It makes everybody in Hollywood say, 'What a man! This is an artist! Hire him quick!' So I went to Hollywood and got a lot of money which I never had before—all because I had two flops at one time. Tues 2-19-46

Ardrey didn't believe he was making a go of film work at Samuel Goldwyn's so after 12 weeks he called it quits.

While he was writing for Goldwyn, Ardrey decided to get married. He arranged to leave by train one Friday night for Tucson to get married there the next day. He had to see Goldwyn before leaving about a script he was doing but Goldwyn was closeted with his bankers and couldn't see him. Ardrey despaired of making his train. He finally succeeded in breaking into the conference and explained his situation.

"I'm sorry you had to wait," Goldwyn said politely. "Oh, you're getting married? That's nice, congratulations. Tell me, how are you getting on with the script?"

"I'm only half through," Ardrey said.

"Oh, forget it," Goldwyn said magnanimously. "Go get married. You can finish the script in Tucson and bring it to me on Monday."

—SEYMOUR PECK

OSSIE DAVIS

'Jeb' Deserves Long Life, Says Ossie Davis

Daily Worker, New York Tues 2-26-46

By BETH McHENRY

OSSIE DAVIS who plays the lead in Robert Ardrey's **Jeb** is pleased but not thrown by the acclaim of the critics. Even those who panned the play spoke of his work with enthusiasm.

Davis said he could play **Jeb** because he could feel the part. He himself likes the play a lot, likes the men and women with whom he works in it, and feels that it deserves a long life on Broadway.

Mr. Davis, newly separated from the army, told us how his own personal "reconversion" was interrupted by the offer to play **Jeb.** We talked with him in his dressing room backstage at the Martin Beck before the matinee last Saturday. He said he had hardly got out of his army gear (he's still trying to find a few shirts the right size) when he had the telegram asking him to read **Jeb** for Producer Herman Schumlin and Ardrey. They liked him, so it was a go from the beginning.

Three months of hard rehearsing, however, hasn't given much of a chance to catch his civilian breath. He still has a few pretty basic things he attend to—including finding a place to live.

"I've been sleeping at a friend's apartment ever since I returned to New York," Mr. Davis said, "I know I'm just one of the many, but it's hard to feel settled until you've at least got a room to put your suitcase in." Tues 2-26-46

Davis also has a typewriter to place, some writing he longs to get to. For Ossie Davis acting was in the beginning only secondary to writing. He decided to learn to act as part of the business of learning the technique of playwrighting. Now he is pretty taken up with acting as a profession too and hopes to combine both talents.

ARMY DREAMS

Mr. Davis' three years and nine months in the army were spent for the most part in Liberia. Like many another young man in the service he did a lot of hard thinking, hoping for much in the postwar. He returned to find a hopeful roster of serious plays on Broadway, including **Deeps Are the Roots** and **Strange Fruit.** He said, it begins to look as if themes of consequences are finding their way into the American theater. The heavy attacks from some sections of the press on **Jeb**, however, have made him wonder if the advances made in the theater so far won't have to fought for much more forcibly.

Ossie Davis, a handsome young man of 28, with an easy friendliness and obvious self-confidence, came to New York via Howard University from a little town called Valdosta in Georgia. He became part of the Rose McClendon Players in New York, working daytimes in the garment industry, learning plenty both places.

He hopes playwrights and producers will tackle many more plays in the immediate future dealing with the Negro problem.

CRITICAL and AMUSEMENTS

A Negro GI Goes Home

P.M. New York Sun 2-24-46

—Kronenberger

PM Reviews

JEB, a new play by Robert Ardrey, presented by Herman Shumlin at the Martin Beck, with Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee, Santos Ortega, Laura Bowman, Frank M. Thomas, Wardell Saunders, Maurice Ellis, Grover Burgess, Morris McKenney, Grace McTarnahan, P. Jay Sidney and others; staged by Mr. Shumlin; scenery and lighting by Jo Mielziner; costumes by Patricia Montgomery.

I must agree with most of my colleagues that *Jeb* is neither a good play nor sufficiently sustained theater. The man in the street will want more action than it provides, and the discriminating playgoer will want more art. Mr. Ardrey has not quite enough story to tell, and has not told it with consistent vigor or sense of progression. Too many of his scenes break off from one another, too many run on for too long, and those near the end are too repetitious. Nor, in telling of the return

of a Negro soldier to the South, is Mr. Ardrey just an imperfect craftsman. He is also an unconvincing psychologist. His main character seems superimposed on his environment rather than native to it; some of his minor characters are the merest stereotypes. And some of his talk, for that matter, has too familiar a ring, involves too strident a remonstrance.

Yet I must partly diverge from the majority of the reviewers, for though *Jeb* falls down as art and falls short as theater, it has a definite if not altogether definable claim on the serious playgoer. It gives you some kind of valid sober emotion; it disturbs you as this kind of play should try to disturb—with none of that concurrent, analgesic exhilaration that—as I think is a little true of *Deep Are the Roots*—lets many people think they are being roused by the importance of the theme when they are actually being het up by the excitement of the plot. (This is no plea for earnestness at the cost of enjoyment; but the two should proceed from the same thing, *and at the same level*). Possibly what always kept some hold on me in *Jeb* was something I felt in the author rather than in the play. Without succeeding as artist, psychologist or perhaps even as social commentator, Mr. Ardrey conveyed an integrity of emotion. He showed a real concern, a real feeling for what he was writing about. And that, unlike mere sincerity, is something that can create a response, that can make you feel, too. Beyond that *Jeb*, has, decidedly, its well-written scenes and its stirring ones.

What Other Critics Said About 'Jeb'

NICHOLS, *Times*: "The suggestion for a great and stirring play is there, but it is not realized."

BARNES, *Tribune*: "A play to bother one's thinking as well as one's feelings."

CHAPMAN, *News*: "Has in it fine qualities of sincerity and clear thinking. But wordiness often robs it of its dramatic drive."

COLEMAN, *Mirror*: "A cynical, pessimistic play, containing some very effective, awesome shoddy writing."

MOREHOUSE, *Sun*: "An honest and angry play, if not actually a good one."

GARLAND, *Journal*: "Everything connected with *Jeb* is better than the play itself."

RASCOE, *Telegram*: "I could detect no creative or emotional urge in the writing of *Jeb* at all."

RICE, *Post*: "A disappointing play."

A war hero who has lost a leg, Jeb Turner comes home to Louisiana. He has learned how to operate an adding machine, but has not learned that the town won't let a Negro have a "white man's job." When he attempts, with some help from a sympathetic mill manager, to buck the town's decree, he runs into trouble, and is falsely accused of being seen with a white girl. This time he attempts to buck the town's wrath, but has finally to flee up North. Still unshaken, he is determined to go back home and fight again.

By making Jeb, from the first, a simple, trusting, courageous character, Mr. Ardrey had made his actions, throughout the play, consistent enough. The trouble with Jeb is that he shows a naivete about the ways of the South that would be almost impossible in some one who had never lived there. He attempts to fight the town, not protestingly, not defiantly, but almost, it would seem, disbelievingly. Hence one's own reaction is largely disbelief. Furthermore, Jeb repeats his stand in each of the play's last three scenes—which, while it reinforces his character, virtually halts the movement of the play.

* * *

If the play pads and backtracks, the reason is at any rate a commendable one. Mr. Ardrey wanted to tell no more nor less than Jeb's story. And Jeb's simple, largely uncontrived story does keep one's emotion channeled, even if one's interest fluctuates. You care more about what is happening than at plays that, theatrically, are much more effective.

The production is not all of a piece; but Ossie Davis is, at any rate, excellent in much the most important role. He makes Jeb a believable person, if not quite a believable Southern Negro. Laura Bowman is good as Jeb's mother, and I liked Carolyn Hill Stewart in a bit part. But most of the others in the cast are seldom more than adequate. Ruby Lee plays Jeb's frightened girl too obviously, and in the most "interesting" part in the play, that of the sympathetic mill manager, Santos Ortega seemed pretty much of a stage type. Mr. Shumlin's direction was excellent in the best scenes, though it could not always take up the slack of the weaker ones; and here and there it abetted the declamatory side of Mr. Ardrey's writing. Jo Mielziner has done some satisfying sets.—LOUIS KRONENBERGER

Action in "Jeb," the New Broadway Play

This is a striking scene from Herman Shumlin's production, "Jeb," a new interracial play by Robert Ardrey, which opens Thursday at the Martin Beck Theatre, New York, following a successful pre-Broadway run in Philadelphia. Left to right in photo are: Maurice Ellis (Julian); Ossie Davis, white shirt (Jeb Turner), star of the play; Rudolph Whittaker (Libe); Reri Grist (Rachel); Laura Bowman (Amanda Turner), the mother; Christopher Bennett (Jefferson). It's a fast moving, sincere play.

SHUMLIN TO CLOSE 'JEB' ON THURSDAY

Play Lasting 9 Performances —'Dearly Beloved' Shelved— Movies Buy 2 Todd Shows

By SAM ZOLOTOW

Generally a shrewd appraiser of stage values, Herman Shumlin has suffered a temporary setback. His production of the Robert Ardrey play, "Jeb," which opened at the Martin Beck Thursday night, will close after its ninth performance there next Thursday night.

From the outset, Mr. Shumlin had to contend with all sorts of obstacles. Any other producer would have been intimidated; but not the social-minded Mr. Shumlin.

In order of their appearance, here are the stumbling blocks he had to face: Although the acute theatre shortage had no bearing on the withdrawal, the Beck was free for only three and a half weeks. He also realized that "Jeb" followed in the footsteps of other recent plays on the treatment of Negroes in the South. The subject, therefore, was not entirely new, no matter how treated. Five of the reviewers turned thumbs down, two were for it and two straddled the issue.

'FDR's Favorite' Plays At Monetary Conference

SAVANNAH, Ga. — (ANP) — Graham W. Jackson, musician-favorite of the late Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt, rendered piano entertainment at one of the opening affairs for delegates to the International Monetary Conference at Hotel Oglethorpe. Delegates from 44 countries applauded his renditions.

Ben White, a bellhop who is a linquist speaking Spanish, French, German and Latin at the Oglethorpe Hotel, performed a good-will deed of international importance when he introduced Dr. Franklin A. Paz, Bolivian delegate to the monetary conference, to Senor Maschke, another delegate, in Spanish.

Dr. Paz speaks very little English. When he and Senor Maschke were introduced, they went into a Latin embrace.

Change Scheduled To Arrive June 1

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By RICHARD GOLDSBERRY

Because she looked too tall in high-heeled shoes and an upsweep of her beautifully groomed brown hair, Janice Kingslow almost missed her chance of replacing Hilda Simms in the leading role of Anna Lucasta.

Recommended by Etta Moten, famous stage, screen and radio star, for an audition with the producer of the all-time record-breaking Negro show, Miss Kingslow was turned down because of her "added height."

"I thought my opportunity of becoming an actress was ended, at least for the present," she declared. Sat. 5-11-46

Offered Contract

By a strange twist of fate the girl who had set her eye on a teaching career, has been awarded a contract to assume one of the most important roles offered a Negro actress in big-time show business.

It all happened when she accompanied a friend to purchase tickets to a performance of a play in which she is headed to become the star.

"I was dressed like a college co-ed, wearing low-heeled shoes. My hair was combed down.

Producer Pleased

"While waiting for the tickets, Harry Waystaff Gribble, director, and Mrs. John Wildberg, co-producer, who happened to notice me, were surprised to see how much shorter I was.

"Mr. Gribble asked me to read the part of 'Anna.' When I had finished, he was pleased and sent for John Wildberg, producer, to hear me read the script. He must have been pleased, for he offered me a contract to become understudy to Hilda Simms."

Miss Kingslow, at the age of 21, will replace Hilda Simms as Anna June 1 when Miss Simms leaves the cast to play Juliet, in "Romeo and Juliet," scheduled to open in Chicago after Labor Day.

First Professional Role

Venturing into her first professional stage experience, Miss Kingslow, daughter of the late Dr. Harry Kingslow, former Evanston physician, and Mrs. Virginia Kingslow of Chicago, considers taking such a leading role "a wonderful opportunity for an aspiring actress." Sat. 5-11-46

Not forsaking a teaching career altogether, she feels more people can be reached on the stage than in the class room.

"Shows like 'Anna Lucasta' gives Negro Americans the opportunity to show the theatre-going public that Negroes have the same human experiences as any other group," she believes.

With the show since October, 1945 as an understudy, Miss Kingslowe finds she has merely transferred teaching from one stage of life to another.

"Plays like 'Anna Lucasta,' and 'Deep Are The Roots,' strike at social problems," she said. "The stage is one of the most effective mediums in acquainting the public with these problems."

She has learned the principles of democracy are alive in the theatre today. "If we could apply the unifying element which exists in the theatre, the recognition of human dignity and endeavor—and apply this to other walks of life, we would find part of the solution therein to aid all ethnic groups and creeds in living amicably together." Sat. 5-11-46

Aided In Atom Bomb

Born in Williamson, W. Va., Miss Kingslow showed a flair for the theatre at the age of 11 when she won a dramatic award for the best child actress in a city-wide playground contest in Evanston, Ill.

She wrote dramatic continuity commemorating organizations of the Girls' Reserve in addition to scripts for puppet shows—modern versions of fairy tales.

A graduate of Wilson Junior College, and former student of Chicago Teachers' College, attractive Janice is studious, modest and friendly. She insists on getting eight hours sleep, cares very little for night clubs, and uses soap and water on her smooth face instead of complexion creams. She very seldom attends a beauty shop.

She is fond of sports, particularly tennis and swimming. Her diet includes plenty of vegetables and fruit juices. She loves to dance, but spends much of her time going to the theatre.

While attending college she worked in the afternoons at the Hall branch library. During the war, she aided in the development of the atom bomb as a laboratory technician on the University of Chicago campus.

Broadway Report:

Advice for a Young Actress

P. M. New York, N.Y.
Fri 7-19-46

By JOHN S. WILSON

Laura Bowman, who plays the mother in *Anna Lucasta*, her 101st show, has been on the stage for 43 years. She has danced in chorus lines, sung in musical comedy, played straight roles on Broadway and in stock, trouped in every country in Europe, sung with symphony orchestras in Vienna and Zurich, sung opera in Milan, played with Helen Hayes and Amos 'n' Andy on the radio and made the first talking picture tests in Paris in 1907. Fri 7-19-46

Laura Bowman
Her 101st show . . .

In the show, her daughter, Anna Lucasta, is played by 18-year-old Yvonne Machen. Yvonne had appeared on the stage just once (one night only) when she took over the title role in *Anna Lucasta* on June 1. Now the girl who suddenly found herself catapaulted into a leading role with no experience behind her sits eagerly at the feet of the veteran Miss Bowman whom she calls "Mommy" both onstage and off.

"The best way to get ahead in the theater is to learn to do everything," Miss Bowman was telling her the other night. "When I was your age I was on Broadway, too. I was playing at the New York Therate in *In Dahomay* starring Bert Williams and George Walker. It was 1903. I had a very small part. I stood on a soapbox behind a chorus of 80 and when the temperamental prima donnas couldn't make the top notes, I sang them. I had a good enough voice to make a living as a singer but then I started training to be a dancer—a pony. I really wanted to sing but you must be able to do everything. One night one of the ponies fainted in the wings and with five or six minutes warning I went on, although I'd never danced in public before. That was the test. If I'd fallen down I would have been fired.

"If you have that spark that it takes to be an actress," Miss Bowman went on, "you won't mind the sacrifices, the disappointments. You won't quit no matter what happens if you're born to be an actress. The older you get, the stronger the urge is. But from the beginning, prepare for everything. When an opportunity comes, it's too late to get ready for it."

Yvonne Machen
. . . is her first

Yvonne listened intently, her large brown eyes wide with interest. Fri 7-19-46

"When I was a little girl," she interjected, "people used to ask me what I wanted to be. The only thing I wanted to be was an actress. My mother disapproved then, but she couldn't say no when the chance came. And I never had any idea of failure. It never occurred to me that I could possibly go down to my audition for *Anna* and not be accepted."

"Even so," said Miss Bowman, "preparation is still necessary today. Unless you have prepared as well as you can, you don't last long. Stars come up like mushrooms now and they disappear the same way. I've lasted 43 years. To keep employed I've done musical comedy, vaudeville, even minstrelsy. Without background, I couldn't have done it. You have to work harder than most young actresses because you started so high. You should study as hard as you can to catch up with yourself. In your present role you still need training. Why be content to float? What will you do when you leave *Anna*? It will be hard to be satisfied with a lesser role. The next person to hire you will be more critical. You will be older, more experienced and he will expect you to be better."

"I thought of taking a course in the theater when I first came to New York to play *Anna*, Mommy," Yvonne said. "But since then I've heard the older people talk backstage and I feel that I can learn more at the theater than in a school."

"You don't need a school," advised Miss Bowman. "You need a tutor to tell you your faults and tell you how to correct them. You're farther advanced than students in a school. Now this may sound strange for the theater, but do you ride?"

"No."

"Do you swim?"

"No."

"You should – to develop the grace of your body and for recreation while you're training. And learn to play games that make you think."

"Bridge?" suggested Yvonne.

"Yes, and do things that will develop patience."

Miss Machen gritted her teeth and tossed her head.

"I've exhibited more patience with *Anna* than anything I ever did before!" she exclaimed.

"Your very expression belies it," Miss Bowman said softly. "You're high spirited: that's beautiful. But learn how to turn it off and on at will. You know, you were thrown into *Anna* too soon. With a year's experience you would have been a sensation. You would have knocked Broadway cold even if you had gone into the show on the next to last night. And remember this: for a small audience when you don't think anybody is watching, do your *best* because *the* man you want to see you may be in the last row of the balcony.

"And another thing: stop grimacing. I can grimace because I can afford wrinkles, but you can't. Grimaces bring you bad laughs—laughs at you instead of at the line. Fri 7-19-46

"Those," said Miss Bowman, "are some of the little things you don't learn in books."

LUCASTA SALARIES

Ebony Chicago, Ill. Jan 1946

I was extraordinarily happy with your pictorial coverage of my *Anna Lucasta* production in the last edition of EBONY. With one exception I was equally pleased with the editorial subject matter.

The exception was the chapter containing the charge that the players appearing in both *Anna Lucasta* companies, in New York and Chicago, were underpaid and were not accorded proper recognition in publicity.

The first assertion is positively untrue and the second represents a condition beyond my control, simply because it always has been the policy of the American Negro Theater NOT to star or feature the players.

You are at liberty, at any time, to explore my salary list, and ascertain for yourself if the *Anna Lucasta* casts are underpaid, in accordance with representative wages earned by the highest salaries companies on the American stage and by the most reputable producers. In many instance our payrolls are fatter by considerably.

My first experience working with Negro actors was in *Porgy and B*[illegible] which I produced with Cheryl Crawford, and I have been partial to working with them ever since.

My altruism may be as limited as the next producer, but I do not pay actors minimum salaries and I believe my companies have as fine a spirit of comraderie and fellowship as exists in the theater. Mr. Harry Wagstaff Gribble, the director, has uncovered scores of Negro amateurs and launched them on careers of promise, working with them constantly and developing their inherent talent. He is similarly opposed to unliveable wages and resents, like I do, the implication that our organization ever has been guilty of the practice. I sincerely trust these statements clearly present my position in the matter.

JOHN WILDBERG,
Producer, *Anna Lucasta*
Chicago, Illinois.

Three Who Will Play Anna

When "Anna Lucasta" has its second birthday Friday, each of the above ladies will play one act. They are Isabelle Cooley and Yvonne Machen of the local company; Ruby Dee from the road.

'Anna Lucasta' Stage-Door Watchman Saves Our Critic Some Extra Adjectives

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 6-22-46

By AL MONROE

Tuesday's return trip to the Civic theatre was for the purpose of seeing what "Anna Lucasta" had lost or gained with its newly revised cast that includes so many Chicagoans. It has neither lost nor gained.

Following the performance we started backstage to give the cast knowledge of our findings first-hand but an over-zealous stage door attendant said "No." Perhaps 'twas all for the better that our progress was blocked.

Had we gone backstage the urge might have come to say to the newly engaged principals, "You were the greatest we've seen, much better than the Fredrick Oneals, Earl Hymans, Hilda Simms and others who graced the cast before you." Otherwise we might have found it necessary to search for the nearest exit which might have proved as hard to crash as was the front door when we arrived.

But with the stage door-keeper, several blocks and a typewriter separating us we can now settle to Tuesday night's performance on the stage which should prove more interesting than the hazards of a hard working drama critic.

There has never been any doubt but that "Anna Lucasta" is a theatre gem with whoever happens to be chosen to do the speaking and acting.

We found this true Tuesday night almost without exception. In beauteous Janice Kingslow, a Chicago girl, Wildberg and Gribble have found a capable replacement for Hilda Simms. If Janice lacks any of Hilda's experience in acting she more than makes up for it in a far superior speaking voice.

Hilda was petite and good looking; Janice is tall and good looking and as "Brother" Frank would say, she offers more worry for the father, "Joe" in the sweater department and where nylons take over, than did her predecessor.

"Frank" is played by Warren Coleman of the New York company who does a creditable job. He's an oldster in the cast who has proved his ability here and in New York. But there is another part that deserves comment, the role of Rudolph as played by Ossie Davis, replacement for Earl Hyman. Ossie, while not as naive as Earl (which at one time seemed essential to the part) is convincing in his performance. Under him the part grows up where Hyman portrayed it as a juvenile (an issue the author will have to decide for you).

Weslen Foster, the new "Sadie" is another importation from Broadway. Chicago will do well to welcome. If we didn't feel certain of her performance in the beginning it may be due to the uncertainty she displayed while reading the letter dad received from farmer "Slocum." Later, however, she became an acceptable part of the play's perfection.

Albert Perkins who plays "Theresa" the mother, is another Chicagoan doing credit to the Wildberg-Gribble production. She combines the smoothness of Georgette Harvey and the comic studded performance of Georgia Burke to keep the role at its expected standard.

The remainder of the cast is the same; the show's class the same, and our suggestion is that you see it before the curtain is rung down on a play that is well worthy of its record Chicago run.

'Anna Lucasta' Will Hit 800th —A B'way Hit

Amsterdam New York N.Y. Saturday

When "Anna Lucasta", the Philip Yordan dramatic hit, reaches its 800th performance at the Mansfield Theatre on Wednesday night, July 17, it will not only have broken all continuous-run records on Broadway for shows featuring Negro casts, but will present the audience with some new members of the Lucasta family.

For, on the evening before the 800th, veteran actress Laura Bowman takes over the role of Anna's mother which the vacationing Georgia Burke has been playing since opening night, Aug. 30, 1944, and Ossie Davis replaces Earle Hyman as the "sucker from the South" who becomes the wayward Anna's husband. In addition, Roy Allen the same night succeeds John Proctor in the part of Stanley, Anna's brother. *7-20-46*

Though the sale of the movie rights to this story (the redemption of a street-walking glamour girl and her good-and-bad family) has been delayed by producer John Wildberg, yet many other arrangements for its production around the world have already been set.

The road tour of the Chicago company which has been playing the Civic Theatre since last September, begins in Bridgeport, Conn., on Sept. 30, 1946. It is booked the country over for at least two years. The rights for its production abroad have been sold to impresarios in London, Austria, Germany, Italy, and France. Negotiations are current for its presentation in Australia and Africa.

Several Hollywood studios are dickering for the film rights, but Mr. Wildberg has not quite made up his mind whether or not he will do "Anna Lucasta" as an idependent production. *7-20-46*

The little show about a Polish family in a Pennsylvania mining town which was originally staged by the American Negro Theatre in a Harlem basement has become one of the most amazing successes in the history of the American theatre.

'LUCASTA'S' NEW 'ANNA'

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. JANICE KINGSLOW *6-22-46*

Who has been entrusted with the all important assignment of replacing Hilda Simms in the role of "Anna" in "Anna Lucasta" is doing a terrific job. Miss Kingslow combines beauty with excellent acting to give the part a Broadway touch.

Ruby Hill Among New Faces in 'Lucasta' on 900th Showing

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 10-13-46

NEW YORK—(ANP) — The 900th performance of "Anna Lucasta," the record-breaking Broadway hit by John Wildberg, played before a matinee audience here last Saturday and featured some new faces in the cast.

Ruby Hill, remembered for her excellent portrayal of the title role in "St. Louis Woman," has taken over the role of the wayward daughter of the Lucasta family, with Isabelle Cooley acting as her alternate.

A newcomer to Broadway, Henry Scott of Chicago replaced Ossie Davis, who is on tour. Scott, playing the juvenile lead of Rudolph, opposite Miss Hill, recently came from a starring role with the road company of "Deep Are the Roots."

Roy Glenn in Cast

The new "Danny," the rough and tumble sailor who is Anna's main boy friend during her sojourn in the dives of Brooklyn, is Roy Glenn. This is his first Broadway appearance, but he is well known in theatre and radio circles on the West Coast, having appeared in Hall Johnson's "Run Lil Chillun" and Duke Ellington's "Jump For Joy."

The role of Noah, the bartender, was again taken up by Slim Thompson, replacing Alvin Childress who joined the road company of "Lucasta." Slim has had many Broadway and Hollywood roles since 1922. His successes include the stage and screen versions of "Petrified Forest" and "Green Pastures."

Sadie J. Browne returned to the role of the sister-in-law of the Lucastas, Katie; and Claire Leyba took over the part of Blanche, the Flatbush character.

Record Run of 'Lucasta' Ended; Revival in Spring

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK (ANP) — The longest New York run of any colored cast drama ended here last Saturday when "Anna Lucasta" dropped the final curtain on its Broadway appearance after well over two years of curtain raising.

The play was originally scheduled to occupy Mansfield Theatre until Jan. 4, according to Nick Holde, general manager for Producer John Wildberg, but Michael Myserberg, theatre owner, recently announced to the company that he had booked a play, "Years Ago," to open this week.

Since "Lucasta" had made no road bookings on the strength of the verbal agreement with the Mansefield to remain into the New Year's week, Actors Equity granted the play a three-week layoff before going on tour.

Ordinarily when a play closes, Equity's regulations stipulate a lapse of eight weeks before it can reopen.

Sat. 12-7-46

With the three-week concession, "Lucasta" management has agreed that players may continue in the show if they so desire, but new contracts will be let, except to those with run-of-the-play agreements.

The play will open its road tour Dec. 23 in Newark. A return date for New York was given as next spring.

'Anna Lucasta' Gets Ingram And Also Notice To Vacate

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 11-30-46

NEW YORK—Determined to get full mileage out of one of the finest plays on the Broadway scene, John Wildberg, producer of "Anna Lucasta," plans to move his hit play to another theatre after Nov. 30. "Anna" wouldn't move at all if it were not for the fact that a new tenant is coming into the Mansfield theatre where she has been reigning since August, 1944.

It isn't too certain that Wildberg will be able to secure a theatre, and should that prove to be the case, he plans to either close the show temporarily, or to send it on tour.

Rex Ingram, Hollywood and Broadway star, is the latest addition to the cast. He replaces John Bouie.